

BAY AREA REPORTER

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PWA Ryan White Fighting For His Life

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Ryan White, the teen-age AIDS patient whose battle for acceptance won hearts and better understanding of the disease across the nation, remained in critical condition Wednesday on a life-support system, his physician said.

Dr. Martin B. Kleiman said that White, 18, was unconscious and heavily sedated so that life-support systems would function more efficiently. There was no significant change in his condition overnight, he said.

While agreeing that his condition was critical, he called reports Monday of massive internal bleeding "exaggerated and obviously in error," and said his top concern was treating White's respiratory infection.

"Anybody who's this critically ill — nobody can predict from moment to moment if he will survive," he said.

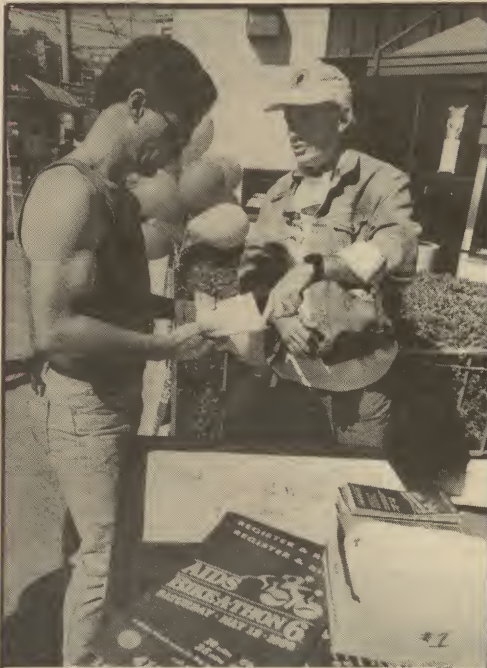
White, who during his five-year battle with AIDS grew from an object of scorn in his hometown to an international spokesman for AIDS patients, has been hospitalized at Riley Hospital for Children since Thursday.

White's mother, Jeanne White, and sister, Andrea, slept some during the night in a room near him.

On Monday, Carrie Van Dyke, a spokesperson for White's family and for the Indiana State Board of Health, had said that White was "not expected to come out of it." The hospital was soon inundated with calls from well-wishers.

Van Dyke said this morning that singer Elton John visited the hospital overnight, flying

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Signing Up AIDS Bike-A-Thon Participants

Mike London enrolls riders for the 1990 AIDS Bike-A-Thon on May 12. Cyclists will have the choice of riding either 10, 25, 60 or 100 miles to benefit 15 Bay Area AIDS charities. For information call 282-1647.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

Wilson in Trouble With Conservatives

by Keith Clark

During the annual convention of the state's largest grassroots Republican organization in San Diego April 1, U.S. Sen. Pete Wilson drew a chilly reception from the ultra-conservative delegates of the California Republican Assembly.

The delegates ultimately issued a "vote of no confidence" in Wilson, even after a disputed representative claiming to be 'standing in' for the absent Wilson startled lesbian/gay rights activists —

especially gay Republicans — by announcing that the gubernatorial candidate would veto a statewide gay rights law if passed while he is governor.

California Assemblyman Phil Wyman of Tehachapi told the CRA convention that he was "standing in" at the convention for Wilson who was in Washington, D.C., attending an unexpected session of the U.S. Senate, and said Wilson is committed to vetoing any new attempt to enact a state les-

(Continued on page 16)

More Gays Told to Repay College Cash

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco man who dreamed of becoming a Navy fighter pilot has been ordered to repay the Navy more than \$25,000 in grants because his sexual orientation made him unsuitable for the service, according to Navy regulations.

The military grant program paid for his college education in exchange for four years of active service as a Navy officer following his graduation.

"Two years after I thought I left this behind and put my life back together, after all that time, to have this raise its head again is a real slam. The day I received the letter, I was a complete wreck. It's such a stressful thing to leave the Navy and then to have all the issues come up again," Peter Laska, 23, told the Bay Area Reporter.

It's not only stressful, said U.S. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), it's outrageous and unnecessary — and it's George Bush's fault.

"George Bush is being neither kind or generous and is adding insult to injury by kicking out decent people and then trying to shake them down," Frank told the Bay Area Reporter. "People do this in his name and he could overturn them in a second. I'm disappointed but not surprised. And then to go and shakedown the parents? Shame on George Bush."

"This is the commander-in-chief doing this and it's just outrageous," Frank said.

Laska's situation also angers U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.).

"It's incredible and outrageous," said Kate Dyer, a Studds spokesperson.

On March 29 Studds wrote a

letter to Secretary of the Navy Lawrence Garrett III, signed by nearly 30 other representatives including Frank, Nancy Pelosi, (D-San Francisco), Don Edwards (D-San Jose), Ron Dellums (D-Berkeley) and Joseph Kennedy II, (D-Mass) about two other midshipmen, David Carney, a Harvard student and Robert Bettiker, a Massachusetts Institute Of Technology.

Suspended for Coming Out

Both were suspended from the NROTC program after acknowledging their homosexuality.

The Navy has demanded repayment of \$50,000 from Carney and \$40,000 from Bettiker. Both have expressed their desire to remain in the Navy and serve as commissioned officers.

The letter condemned the Navy demand for repayment, saying there was no deception, that the midshipmen notified their commanding officers when they realized they were gay, and that the men should not be forced to pay back the money when their own NROTC boards said there had been no intent to defraud.

"They can count on a fight from us. Congressman Studds is really hot under the collar about this. Everything in that letter goes for Mr. Laska as well," Dyer said.

Laska, who now lives in San Francisco, was a midshipman in the Navy's Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. He realized that he was gay in 1986 during his second year in the program.

"With 20-20 hindsight, the

(Continued on page 14)

AIDS Activist Calling For Riot at SF Conference

by Allen White

A call by AIDS activist Larry Kramer for a "riot" at the International AIDS Conference in San Francisco this June "will not be tolerated," conference organizers say.

Larry Kramer, the founder of ACT UP, has issued "A Call to Riot" in a recent issue of *Outweek*, a New York-based gay publication.

"I am calling for a massive disruption of the Sixth International AIDS Conference," Kramer said. "Every human

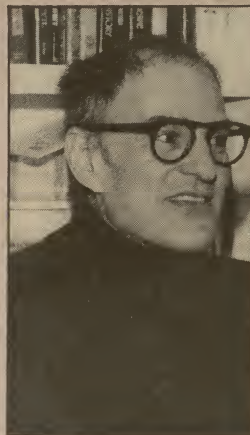
being who wants to end the AIDS epidemic must be in San Francisco from June 20-24, at the Sixth International Conference on AIDS, either inside or outside the Moscone Convention Center, or the Marriott Hotel, screaming, yelling furiously angry, protesting, at this stupid conference"

"It is imperative that ACT UP chapters from everywhere and activists from everywhere and all their friends and family and all marchers and all screamers, from everywhere,

be in San Francisco in front of all the TV cameras and photographers and reporters and media that will be there to see us. We must be there to let the world that is watching see that we are fucking furious."

He concludes the article saying, "We must riot in San Francisco! From all corners of America, AIDS activists and their friends and families must come to San Francisco and make their voices heard."

Bob Wazhter, program director of the conference said, "We



Larry Kramer

do feel disruptions during conference sessions get in the way of what we are trying to do in terms of disseminating information and we won't be tolerating it."

Responding directly to Kramer's article he said, "I am hoping that Mr. Kramer does not follow through on his threats. We have spent a tremendous amount of time working with Mr. Kramer, as well as a very wide variety of AIDS activist groups all over the country."

"We are hopeful that after Mr. Kramer sees the conference schedule and sees it articulates many of his own concerns he will join with us in fighting the things he professes to be fighting. In fact, he will

(Continued on page 23)

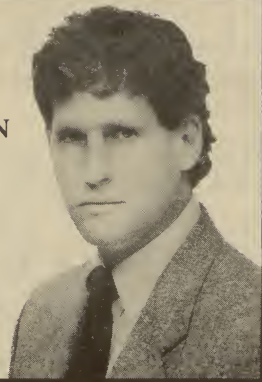
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AIDS Activists: Bush Long On Words, Short on Actions

Washington (AP)—AIDS activists welcome President Bush's attention to the epidemic that has ravaged the gay community and is spreading among drug users, but they say he must match his sympathetic words with action.

"Compassion is important, but we need money," said Tim McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

In a speech March 29 to the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS, Bush called on Congress to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act to bar discrimination against people with AIDS and those who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, which causes AIDS.

He also touted his administration's proposed fiscal 1991 budget proposal for spending \$3.5 billion on AIDS treatment, research and education.

But Jean McGuire, executive director of the AIDS Action Council, said "the sensitivity we're seeing could mask the inaction we've had for the last decade" under former President Reagan.

"If today is the beginning and not an end to the president's efforts, we can be hopeful," she said. "But a decade of neglect requires a more aggressive and substantive and meaningful leadership than we heard today."

Leaders of the National Commission on AIDS were more positive in their reaction to the president's first major speech on the disease, which has taken the lives of more than 70,000 Americans, most of them homosexuals or intravenous drug abusers.

They called Bush's attention an important first step in escalating the public battle against the epidemic.

Dr. June Osborn, the commission's chairwoman, said that even though the president offered no new initiatives, it was important that he showed concern about the issue and compassion for people with AIDS. "In terms of changing the public mood, we desperately need that rhetoric," she said.

"We're on wartime footing" at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Dis-

ease Control in the battle against AIDS, Bush told the coalition of business, labor, health and religious groups.

But AIDS activists said the president was trying to inflate the administration's commitment to the AIDS battle by including, among other things, spending on Medicaid and Medicare patients who have AIDS. That amounts to more than \$1 billion of Bush's total for AIDS spending.

AIDS activists attending the conference said that with just one speech, Bush has done more than Reagan did for their cause.

But they were disappointed Bush did not address some of the major issues relating to AIDS, including an immigration policy that bars people with the fatal disease from entering the country.

Many activists had hoped the president would address the immigration policy, which has prompted dozens of organizations and agencies to boycott an international conference.

(Continued on page 18)



Imperial Investiture '90

Coin of the realm are sprinkled over the head of Empress Marlena by Baron Horst.

(Photo: Rink)

AIDS Hospice Torched

Gay Man Charged in Fire

by Keith Clark

In what AIDS activists are calling a "tragic development," police officials in Waterloo, Iowa, on March 28 named one of the two gay men living at the facility at the time of the fire as a suspect in the arson attempt at a recently opened AIDS hospice.

Police said the man, who had been known to Cedar Valley AIDS Hospice staff as Rocky Romero Jr. since he moved to Waterloo three months ago and enrolled in the hospice program there, was in fact legally Ronald Eugene Carnes.

Blackhawk County Sheriff's officials said Carnes had been charged with first degree arson, a felony charge tantamount to attempted murder under Iowa law and carrying a 25 year prison sentence. He is

being held in the county jail on a \$100,000 bond.

Carnes, according to police, was also known by at least one other alias in his travels in Iowa, Kansas and California during the past few years.

Sheriff's department officials also said records indicated that at least two other "mysterious fires" had occurred at places where Carnes had lived elsewhere in Iowa and Kansas in the recent past.

A spokesperson for the Blackhawk County Sheriff's Office said police were "very convinced" of the evidence against Carnes and had in fact presented their evidence to a judge before getting a warrant for Carnes' arrest.

The hospice had been the object of intense controversy

since it was first announced by the Blackhawk County Board of Supervisors last year.

During public testimony on the proposal, volunteer firefighters threatened not to respond if the building caught on fire and several supervisors supporting the hospice were also threatened as a result.

Carnes was one of two gay men with AIDS who had moved

(Continued on page 18)

From the Editor

In an effort to bring you more complete coverage of gay and AIDS news throughout California, the nation and the world, *The Bay Area Reporter* is pleased to announce the addition of The Associated Press to our list of contributors. ▼

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Gays in Castro Retaliate Against Would-Be Bashers

by Dennis Conkin

A St. Patrick's Day incident in the Castro found at least three gay men fighting back against a carload of young thugs intent on gay-bashing.

"We had been inside Walgreen's at about 10:45 p.m., getting a prescription filled, our friend walked up and we were standing there talking. We heard real loud whistles and saw a blue Toyota Celica in the lane of traffic. Two Latinos got out of the car and started attacking a man and calling him a faggot. He was getting punched in the chest and in the head," Kevin told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The attackers were described as two young Latino men in their early to mid 20s, wearing T-shirts.

Kevin and his friends decided to intervene in the bashing.

"One of the other guys in the car was trying to stop the guy in the turquoise T-shirt. They saw that we were coming and he was trying to pull the guy back in the car," Michael said.

However, Michael says, the Latino with the torn turquoise T-shirt got back out of the car and started after Kevin, taking five or six steps toward him.

"I asked someone behind me to hold my gym bag," Kevin said. "He took five or six steps toward me, turned and realized that he was alone, the car was leaving."

The car had turned in the traffic and was parked in the bus zone on 18th Street near

Does Your Mother Know gift shop.

"He started running toward the car. I chased him. I was mad and wasn't going to back down at all. I wasn't going to take this shit any more. I wanted to get him," Kevin said.

The man ran to the car and jumped in the passenger seat. Kevin ran after him, reached into the passenger seat, grabbed the man by his long shag-tail.

"I proceeded to punch him. I got in eight to 10 pretty good punches to his face. He was inside the car and pretty defenseless. But then my eyes started fluttering and I couldn't see very well at all, so I let go. My sight ran out," Kevin said.

He couldn't see, because some passer-by had decided to intervene in his own way — by pulling out a can of mace and macing the occupants of the car one at a time.

Kevin accidentally got Maced as well. Another passer-by, in the meantime, decided to add his contribution to the melee and as Kevin was being escorted to Walgreen's for assistance, came out of a restaurant and, according to Michael, threw a glass of hot water in the faces of the car's remaining occupants.

Meanwhile, Jim had pulled the driver of the car out of drivers seat, but he escaped. And although Jim ran after him, he couldn't catch the man.

After Kevin was Maced, and Jim and Michael went to his

aid, the car, containing some very surprised would-be gay bashers, drove away.

"We want people to know that they don't have to take it, anymore. This shows we can retaliate, that we don't have to sit back and get beat up," Jim told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Kevin said that the trio was coming forward about the incident to let people know that there is cameraderie in the Castro neighborhood and that such incidents will not be tolerated. He also said that the police had the license number of the car and that the incident would be prosecuted if the man who was originally attacked will come forward and press charges.

He said that perhaps the assailants were the same people who attacked two patrons of the Stud in separate incidents two months ago.

Lester Olmstead-Rose of Community United Against Violence said the incident "reflects the frustration" of people about gay bashing.

"It points out that we're not safe as lesbian and gay men even in the Castro. It shows that people are willing to stand up for fellow lesbians and gays. On the other hand, we don't promote violence. We do support people taking self defense classes, though. They are a good way for people to learn to protect themselves. And we are happy to make referrals to such classes," Olmstead-Rose said.



The Project Inform contingent from the 1989 Freedom Day Parade.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Gay Parade Route Changes

by Peter Altman

The 1990 San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade will begin at 11 a.m. on June 24. However, this year's parade will take place against the unusual backdrop of the Sixth International AIDS Conference being held in San Francisco between June 20 and 24.

Parade organizers are hopeful demonstrations by AIDS activists will not overshadow the celebrations.

"We are a little worried about disruptions a few days before the parade. This is a time when we celebrate our-

selves. We have to make sure people don't equate the AIDS conference with the Pride march," said Flo Tumolo, parade co-chairperson. "However, protest is a part of the parade and it's how we've gotten some of our rights over the years."

Organizers of a mass demonstration planned for Saturday, June 23, one day before Gay Pride festivities, believe political activities around the AIDS conference will actually help attract media coverage to Sunday's Gay Pride celebration.

"The Saturday march will keep thousands of media people in San Francisco over the weekend who are coming from all over the world to cover the conference. Otherwise, much of the media might leave on Thursday or Friday before the parade," said Paul Boneberg of Mobilization Against AIDS, one of the groups sponsoring the demonstration.

Boneberg also believes the AIDS demonstration stands to benefit from the momentum of Gay Pride week.

"Thousands will be in town
(Continued on page 21)

Hotline Fund Cut Criticized

by Dennis Conkin

On March 29, the day the San Francisco AIDS Foundation was set to celebrate the opening of its Tagalog language hotline, the Foundation instead found itself condemning the California State Department of Public Health for cutting the hotline's funding.

"It's indicative of the state's lack of commitment to stopping AIDS that this program is cut at the very moment it is to begin operations," said Pat Christen, executive director of the Foundation.

In a blistering attack on the State Office of AIDS, Christen said the agency would appeal the decision to cut the funds for the hotlines, and would pursue the matter in court—and in the streets—if necessary.

Chuck Frutchet, SFAF education department director, has appealed the decision to Thelma Frazier, MD, director of the State Office of AIDS.

"It's an outrage," said Frutchet. "From a political standpoint the State Office of AIDS has the most to lose in terms of trust and credibility from this move."

Calling the decision "insensitive," Frutchet pointed out that two state reviews of the proposal for the contract, recommended that the SFAF be funded at higher levels and even suggested that the agency expand into other Asian language services.

According to Health Department statistics, the Filipino community has the highest incidence of AIDS among Asian groups in San Francisco. 71 of the 157 Asians with AIDS in San Francisco are Filipino.

Tagalog is the predominate indigenous language of the Filipino people.

"In addition to information,

College Adds Gay Study Course

by Marv. Shaw

Another pioneering course for lesbians and gay men has been added to the curriculum at City College San Francisco by Chairperson Jack Collins of the Gay and Lesbian Studies Department.

"Gay and Lesbian Issues in the Workplace," a six-week course co-sponsored by the college's Department of Labor Studies, will begin in the Castro-Valencia Center, Everett Middle School, 450 Church St., on Tuesday, April 17, Collins announced last week.

The teacher will be Patti Roberts, labor attorney and former field representative for the California School Employees Association.

Roberts comes to the course with preparation at Brooklyn College and a law degree from Boalt Hall. Roberts said that a prime consideration of the course would be a careful ex-



Pat Christen

the Tagalog hotline provides human contact and cultural sensitivity to Tagalog callers in need of information about AIDS. In the Filipino community, it is also difficult for people to openly discuss topics of human sexuality, which makes AIDS education very difficult," said Nellie Rose, the hotline's other co-chair, in a statement of the Foundation condemning the decision of the State Office of AIDS.

It's indicative of the state's lack of commitment to stopping AIDS...

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation received only the amount of funding for the hotline that it received last year, \$147,000. The funds do not cover the expansion of the hotline's services into Tagalog.

Rene Durazzo, the Foundation's director of public policy, criticized the State AIDS Office for its failure to fund agencies providing needed services.

"They've spent about \$8 million in the fiscal year and are sitting on \$42 million," Durazzo told the Bay Area Reporter.

"They've given us no reason for their decision," Durazzo said.

amination on the matter of coming out on the job. Closely following will be an exploration of discrimination and what to do about it. Instruction on what unions can do and what the gay employee can do within the union will be given. On the point especially Roberts' experience of 5½ years as a field representative for the CSEA will be the major resource.

Particularly contemporary problems such as AIDS issues in the workplace and domestic partners' benefits will also be addressed.

Roberts said the class procedure would be quite participatory with experiences being elicited throughout each session. The classes will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Tuition is \$5. Students are urged to pre-register. For more information, call 241-2219. The class will run through May 22.

Religious Groups Blast Task Force

by Dennis Conkin

Representatives of religious groups, including the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the First Orthodox Presbyterian Church, attacked the Mayor's Task Force on Family Policy during public hearings on Thursday, March 29.

The Task Force, appointed by the Mayor last June, was created by legislation sponsored by Supervisor Harry Britt of the Human Rights Commission.

The Task Force examined the city's family policy in three areas, the city as employer, contractor and service provider, and issued recommendations "aimed at erasing San Francisco policies that disadvantage non-traditional families and removing obstacles to equality for city workers."

Among the recommendations of the group, chaired by lesbian attorney Roberta Achtenberg, are extending health care benefits to unmarried partners of city workers, the adoption of bereavement leave that includes time off for the death of non-marital partners, changing the city's retirement system to give non-marital spouses and extending hospital visiting rights to non-marital partners.

The recommendations also called for the development of a "family registry" as an official city record of families that exist outside of marriage.

"What makes San Francisco strong is our families, and our families come with a great deal of diversity," said Mayor Agnos in accepting the recommendations.

"The task force represents a



Roberta Achtenberg

diversity of experience and a diversity of concerns but they have proven that we can find common ground in our concern that the city support families of all kinds," Agnos said.

"We are very concerned about what seems to be an attempt to bring in by way of the back door what was rejected at the front door by the voters of San Francisco last November," said George Wesolek, a spokesman for the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Denouncing the Task Force as "not competent" and a "slap in the face to the voters," Wesolek voiced opposition to the plan and called the group's definition of the family "appallingly weak, in fact almost ludicrous."

The Task Force conclusions

define the family as "an interdependent group of people" and pointed to the variety of family structures including single parent families, multi-generation and extended families, and other family groups that are not traditional.

Wesolek trounced the report as "having the same flaws we found unacceptable in Proposition S, the domestic partners ordinance defeated by voters in November."

"We're playing with fire by tampering with God's ordinance of the family. The scriptures are clear. 'Be not deceived. God is not mocked; whoever a man or society sows, that it will reap,'" said the Rev. Charles McIlhenny, of the First Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

McIlhenny spearheaded the petition drive to put domestic partners legislation enacted by the Board of Supervisors on the ballot last November.

"It would seem that city policy as it is being referred to by the Mayor's Task Force on Family Policy, has not been established by the city, but by a group of individuals including the Mayor himself, who are more intent on serving a special interest group, namely the gay community rather than the community of the whole," said Rev. James Page of the Association of Hispanic Evangelical Ministers.

Page said that the areas under examination by the Task Force "are clearly variations" of the domestic partners ordinance and said that the and other city officials were conducting a "personal agenda."

Page, like most of the other speakers, condemned the redefinition of the family.

"As a point of history, all civilizations that have deviated from the basic family structure

(Continued on page 22)

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EDITORIAL

A Kinder, Gentler Nation?

Once again the hypocrisy and contempt of the Bush administration for human rights rears its evil head. This contempt now manifests itself in the military's ROTC programs. Many students join these units when they are in high school in preparation for college. Their sexual preference may or may not be decided; as the years progress some of these young men and women realize that they are homosexual. Some choose to hide it and go into the services. Others, being honest, come out to their superiors and are usually requested to resign.

This was the past. The government is now trying to badger these truthful people into repaying what the government says it spent on them. Some of these bills are coming in two and three years after they have been separated from the service. Most of the separations have been stressful and ugly; it took many months to calm down and try to get a new life going. If the person being billed doesn't respond or pay, the military tries to shake down their parents. In some instances, the parents didn't have knowledge of their children's sexual preferences and this causes more problems.

We find it reprehensible that a military that squanders money on everything from toilet seat covers to overpriced nuts and bolts should try to shake down people for a few paltry bucks (in their eyes). It is no more than harassment from them. These tactics are now being discussed in Congress and rightfully so.

There has been no intent to defraud the government, and in some cases the NROTC boards have agreed. What is at stake here is the American military's archaic laws on homosexuality. The president speaks about a kinder, gentler nation and them promotes hatred, bigotry and intolerance against gay men and women. Many people don't realize that when you join the armed services you give up all basic rights granted under the Constitution. It is time for Congress to take a serious look at this gaping flaw in the laws of this land.

But we must speak out and tell our elected representatives what we want. It gets very lonesome in Congress trying to carry this kind of legislation without support from a constituency. We must write and tell them of our outrage and demand that they correct these flaws in the laws of this country. Remember, the Moral Right



mounts massive campaigns to sway members of Congress. Isn't it time we did the same? Address your letters to:

Sen. Alan Cranston
Senator Pete Wilson
Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Barbara Boxer
Representative Nancy Pelosi
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

GUEST OPINION

Misrepresentation

Concerning NBC's piece on AIDS and San Francisco's Gay Community, which was broadcast on March 27. I was interviewed for that piece, and I am concerned about the misrepresentation of my statements, as well as the impact of the broadcast as a whole.

I am aware of some of the limitations of television, and of the problems of conveying complex ideas in limited time. My 10 or 15 seconds of remarks in the final tape were edited from perhaps one-half hour of tape, and that one-half hour rests on years of clinical experience and fully a year of writing on the specific subject of uninfected men.

My actual remarks as broadcast, in context, accurately reflect my clinical experience. But I call your attention to Robert Bazell's summation of what are presumably my ideas:

Psychologist Walt Odets says that many of his uninfected gay patients feel lonely because, in many ways, what was the gay community has become the AIDS community, and he says that men occasionally practice unsafe sex to try and become infected.

I have received numerous comments on the broadcast and it is clear that this summation became, for the viewer, part of my total statement. Unfortunately, the summation misrepresents my ideas. My assertion was not that men were merely "lonely" or that "the gay community had become the AIDS community." It was that many men suffered psychologically from serious depression, anxiety and survivor guilt; and from an unconscious confusion of psychological identity between being gay and having AIDS. As a consequence of these psychological conflicts and confusions, some men have experienced an unconscious, or largely unconscious, desire to have AIDS. To expose oneself to possible HIV infection because one is "lonely" seems ridiculous. If one is depressed, anxious, guilty and confused, the possibility becomes at least psychologically intelligible.

It was within this psychological context that my other comments were also made. I related the statement of a friend who, in being HIV-negative, "felt left out of the big event of our time." This comment, in context, was clearly about an unconscious psychological

confusion, not a real wish. As broadcast, without context, it sounded frivolous and irresponsible; and it seems insulting to many who are struggling with HIV illness itself.

My final comment, also intended in context, was about men becoming infected "and by becoming infected to remain a part of the community that means as to them as the gay community does." Again the idea that contracting HIV keeps one a part of his community make sense only in the psychological context: It is unconscious irrational confusions of identity which cause men to feel that they must have AIDS to remain part of the community that means so much to them. As broadcast, it sounds as if gay men are pondering membership in a social club or private disco, an impression reinforced by the broadcast's gratuitous reassurance that no one is anticipating a return to "the promiscuity that existed before AIDS." The accompanying film shows shirtless men dancing. How did this subject even come up? The idea that unsafe sex occurs only in the context of "promiscuity," rather than in the full range and depth of human interaction, is the homophobic fantasy of a script writer.

The contextual error conveyed by the NBC summation of "my" idea is a serious one for the gay community. It implies that the gay community has, in reality, become the AIDS community. It is precisely my point that the psychological equation of gay and AIDS identities is an unconscious confusion, and one which can be clarified.

I believe that Mr. Bazell's summation, rather than my own words, was used to simplify the language.

My second concern, with the impact of the show as a whole, has to do with context in a broader sense. The anchor person introduced the segment with the statement, "Science correspondent Robert Bazell reports how one gay community, that of San Francisco, is confronting the reality of AIDS in the '90s." But the segment was about merely a single aspect of that "confrontation," which is to say about the loss, the grief, the psychological confusion, and the suffering. It's an important aspect to be sure, and it is, sadly, true. It is, however, equally true that our community has had remarkable successes, both organizational and individual, in responding to this plague.

—Walt Odets, Ph.D.
Oakland

LETTERS

Racial Divisions

★ In response to the letter you printed from Mr. Bettancourt in the March 15 B.A.R., in which he made reference to the imagined slights of Asian and Pacific Americans.

Mr. Bettancourt, the ignorance you displayed in your letter is at best unforgivable in a state and country that interned all citizens of Japanese and Japanese-American heritage inside of concentration camps and impounded their property and holdings.

Your voice is the voice of the white middle-class American male, the demographic group which all too often supports status quo beliefs because nothing in their life has ever made them see differently.

You do not understand the power of words like "jap", "chink", "slant eyes" and "gook" because no one has ever used them on you to shut you up. You do not know what it is like to want so much for your eyes and skin to be different that you dye your hair, buy colored contacts, have your eyes surgically altered, if only to end the racism by leaving your race behind.

You cannot understand, as a white man, what it is like to be a child and hate your parents for the mere fact of their identity every time you look in a mirror and you are still not white.

It takes a long time in this country to get over the myth that white is better and it would happen faster without the clumsy intervention of experts like yourself. The fact you feel you, as a white man, have a right to tell us about ourselves, a right to attempt to diagram our links to each other, is a part of the same power dynamic that leaves black men waiting for cabs in the Castro while empty cabs drive by or gives skinheads the right to gas synagogues in the name of freedom of expression.

Do not tell me I am wrong, do not explain to me your conflicts on a continent I have never seen, do not tell me or my brothers or my sisters about our unity or lack of unity because we are together every time we are silenced, every time we are called jap or chink or gook or VC. You forget that hatred of Asians and Pacific Islanders was a government agenda at one point, less than twenty years ago, and has been such at varying points through the century.

Some advice: Do not confuse historical conflicts with personal individuals. Educate yourself. And, as a white man, do not try to tell me or my brothers and sisters about our lives or our pain or our joy. For too long we have only been useful to white gay men as waiters, drag queens or fuck toys, or villains to be subjugated or vanquished; stand back and let us speak for ourselves. Being gay is no education in racism on its own.

And, if you are not a white man, Mr. Bettancourt, then I'm sorry to mistake you; I was only responding to the tone of your letter.

Alexander Chee
San Francisco

Changing View of Blacks

★ The movie, *Tongues Untied* is great.

I was happy to see so many white straight, gay and lesbian people taking an interest in a film apparently geared toward black gay men. This shows that the community is becoming more accepting and are willing to change its views of blacks.

I must encourage more black men to see the movie. Black men loving black men helps generate a feeling of pride and sense of being.

Power to the community for being open and concerned in an area that seemed silent and invisible until *Tongues Untied*.

Jack Walston
San Francisco

Thanks Liz and Paul

★ Recently you ran an article about what Liz Taylor and Paul Newman have been doing in the fight against AIDS since Rock Hudson's death. Thank god for all three of them. Let's hope that it doesn't take another great person to die from AIDS to get the government to start thinking about this dreadful disease again. The word AIDS should be on every government official's lips.

I've seen millions of dollars raised for March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy, etc., through TV telethons. What I haven't seen is millions of dollars raised for AIDS on a TV telethon. I wish I had connections. I'd ask Liz and Paul to see what they could do. They make a good looking couple. They could raise millions just by showing up. Again, thank god for Liz and Paul.

Al Rhodes
San Francisco

More on the Court System

★ This is in response to Hans Anderson's letter, which appeared in the March 8 edition of your paper.

I wish not to respond to Mr. Anderson's accounting questions about the Court System, as I do not know anything about the internal workings of that system. And I am sure there will be others who are knowledgeable of those affairs and who will respond. I do wish to respond, though, to implications in his letter as to the actuality of Jerry Coletti's and Pat Montclair's generosity for through my association with them, I have seen their generosity first-hand.

I have been active in the lesbian/gay community for years and first met Jerry Coletti in January of 1986 shortly after he took over ownership of The Galleon. At that time, I was on the Board of Directors of San Francisco Arts and Athletics, and part of my job, as was every director's, was to raise funds for Gay Games II. One of the ways to do that was through business sponsorships.

I had approached several businesses and was pleased with the results, but I must say that none were more excited about becoming a sponsor nor more willing to help in any other way needed, than was Jerry Coletti. Not only was he there every time I approached him for yet another request for assistance, but he continually made me feel that he was available, whatever we needed. I cannot accurately recall how much Mr. Coletti donated to the Gay Games but I needed it. And I must emphasize, it came without hesitation.

My next contact with his generosity came during that same time period in 1986 when the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF, of which I was and still am, a member, faced a financial crisis. I spoke with Jerry Coletti about it and again, without hesitation, he gave us the financial support we needed to come out of it. And his help didn't stop there for the Chorus became the first of the many groups which Jerry Coletti has continually supported throughout these past years, the last year of which was his and Pat's reign as Emperor and Empress. I could go on with other accounts, for I am a member of several other organizations who have also been the recipient of both Jerry and Pat's generosity. But, in the interest of space, I will not and I think I have made my point.

So, I would hope that in the future, before Mr. Anderson writes another letter like that one, that he talks with someone from the many organizations who have been helped by Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair. And, if he doesn't know who they are, I suggest he stop by the Galleon and peruse the many plaques and awards which he'll find there. They are there for a reason and are a testimony of the depth and breadth of Jerry Coletti's generosity over the years.

Rose Mary Mitchell
San Francisco

Where Were the Big Names?

★ As one of the many who attended OutWrite with high expectations, I was glad to see Steve Abbott's article "OutWrite Assessment" (March 15), which seemed as though it would offer some insight into the glaring omissions and strange distortions presented by that conference.

Abbott does raise some questions about why certain playwrights, novelists and gay publishers were absent from the weekend gathering, but he offers no answer except that he'd heard "rumors of people being blacklisted."

I would like to see an article that really explores what happened in the planning of this conference, so as to avoid such problems with any sequel.

Where were Edmund White, Andrew Holleran, David Leavitt, Larry Kramer, Quentin Crisp, Rita Mae Brown, Paul Monette and the scores of other "big-name" gay writers?

Were they even invited? Why were the panelists (as I heard from many of them) given virtually no guidance as to what to discuss?

Nearly every panel I attended was structured in a "talking head" fashion, allowing for almost no audience interaction; where was the all-important sharing of new ideas and offering of feedback? I could go on and on, but all you need to do is speak with anyone who attended the conference and had an exhilarating two days—only to wake up with a slightly bitter taste after if was all over.

If a large-scale gay and lesbian writers conference is to be done successfully next time, we need to start finding answers to the above questions, and many more.

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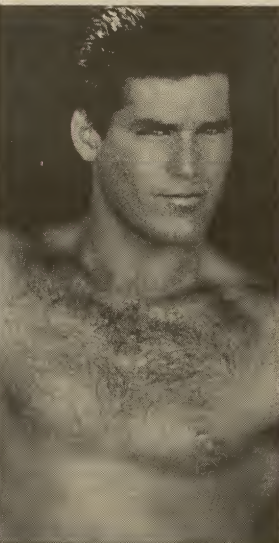
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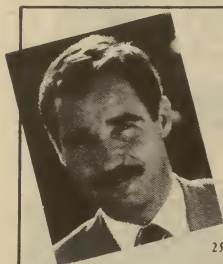
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LETTERS

12-Step Attack

★ In response to John Getty's attack on 12-step recovery programs printed in the March 29 B.A.R.

I felt real pain as I read Mr. Getty's letter. I nearly died attempting to drink and use in moderation. My own experience and that of large numbers of people, is that once the line is crossed to addiction and alcoholism, it is almost impossible for anyone to return to moderate drinking or using.

Trashing 12-step recovery in the name of "so-called" scientific literature and other treatment programs is a smoke screen. If something else works, great! You can leave people alone who are successful in 12-Step recovery.

Talk of happy, creative, energetic and productive life, is far from what most of us have seen when as alcoholics or addicts we started drinking and using again. Mr. Getty sounds like any other drug addict or alcoholic trying to defend his lifestyle.

Mr. Getty has touted his ideas as "radical." For more than 50 years people have said AA doesn't work, especially when they can't stop drinking. Many have gone to great lengths to prove they can drink and use normally. 12-Step recovery continues to work for millions all over the world. I'll skip John Getty's advice and stay with the peace of mind and self acceptance I have found in 12-Step programs and living drug and alcohol free.

The cartoon probably did very little damage compared with Mr. Getty's letter of death.

Stan R.
San Francisco

Gays vs. Gays

★ In response to your Bay Area Reporter article "Gay Vs. Gays," I would like to say that I have a deep concern for people with AIDS, including Mr. Watkins.

I have had more than 100 of my friends die from this horrible disease since 1982.

The issue here is not AIDS, as Mr. Watkins would lead you to believe.

It is a story about Mr. Watkins spreading lies about my lover, John Pillin, defaming his character to several friends/associates. Mr. Watkins also attacked John with a large board during an argument about seven months ago. It was when the police arrived, that I did, in anger, say to Mark Watkins that I wished he would hurry up and die. I didn't feel too proud after realizing the words I had spoken, although there were many instances leading up to this final confrontation which had been building up inside of me.

Consider this: Mr. Watkins and I are in the same profession (disc jockey). I recently started my own record label after DJing for 18 years in several dance clubs on the West Coast and serving as a Billboard panelist for eight years. At first, Mr. Watkins was very supportive, telling me to my face that my work was great. Realizing there there is always more to learn, I said "thank you" and went on. About six months later, I overheard a conversation between Mr. Watkins and a mutual friend. Mr. Watkins proceeded to trash my work, saying how "tired" it was. I discovered my friend had two faces.

As time passed, words began to fly back and forth. One thing does lead to another and before we knew it we were in the middle of a Smith vs. Watkins type feud. Then Mr. Watkins was diagnosed with AIDS.

One evening as I was loading records into our car in front of our former flat, Mr. Watkins said, "You're disgusting," and tried to trip me. A few weeks later Mr. Watkins and Mr. Yeary called the SPCA, telling lies about how we beat our dog. After examining our dog, the SPCA said our dog had not been beaten and was in good condition. Mr. Watkins and Mr. Yeary then threatened at a later date "to poison our dog" (they have cats and don't like dogs.)

We finally decided to move from this mentally unstable environment. We have been away for two months now and our life is finally back to normal. Even better than normal, since we hadn't lived anywhere else together and hadn't experienced what life was like without agitators next door.

So you can see, there are *always* two sides to a story. I never made fun of Mr. Watkins' ailments (expelling blood, etc.) I was not even aware that his health was bad.

Mr. Watkins still works late parties til A.M. hours, (Dreamland), from time to time and his health looks good. I am, however, sorry for his serious illness.

I have played many AIDS benefits in the past and I am donating \$5 for each item sold in May 1990 (Art of Mix Benefit I: AIDS Research) to further my commitment to AIDS research.

Together, with a *positive* attitude, we can beat this disease!!! Keep positive thoughts!

I wish you *all* peace and tranquility.

Steve Smith
San Francisco

Blatant Bigotry

★ I am writing to report a disturbing incident that happened at the I-Beam Saturday night, March 17 (actually Sunday morning). My friend, a native of the Philippines and I (a Caucasian) had spent an enjoyable evening dancing and ogling the men. We had just picked up our coats and were about to leave when a Caucasian male about 40-45 approached us out of the blue and told us that he didn't like all the "Chinks and Mongolians." To illustrate his point he pulled back the corners of his eyes with his fingers to make a caricature of Oriental eyes.

Of all the places where I thought that my friend and I might run into such gross and obscene bigotry, the last place I ever would have expected was in a gay bar. I was flabbergasted, to say the least. This is the kind of mindless hatred typical of the Dannemeyers, the Camerons, Skinheads and the Ku Klux Klan, not fellow gays out for an evening of fun, or so I thought.

I had always thought of gay bars as a sanctuary where one could get away from this kind of attitude, and it saddened me to see the sanctuary invaded by such a poison-filled mind.

I'm not sure what good this letter will do, but perhaps there's some value in letting others know that blatant bigotry does exist among us. I hope that this was an isolated incident, and not an example of something more common.

Charles Phelps
Berkeley, CA.

What's In Pet Food?

A copy of this letter was sent to Kalkan Foods Inc.:

★ In view of what has been made public about the processing and preparation of pet foods, I have a very straight forward question to ask you.

In the processing or preparation of your product sold under the label of "Choice Cuts" Chicken, Beef, Liver with Beef or any other of your labels otherwise not labeled horsemeat for dog food of various flavor preparations, do you use any *canine, feline or equine* products singularly, or in concert, with renderings or by-products of this description in any of your "Choice Cuts" labels or any other of your dog food labels.

I anxiously await your reply. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please respect my interest enough to give me the courtesy of a reply. Should you continue to be "mute" on this matter, I will have no other choice than to conclude, that if answered, the answer would be in the affirmative.

Alan R. Post
San Francisco

Free Cancer Test

★ One out of every 20 Americans may develop colorectal cancer during his or her lifetime.

Fortunately, more than 80 percent of those cancers will be cured. The key is early detection.

Between March 26 and April 15, 100,000 Bay Area residents will test themselves for colorectal cancer. A simple, at-home test kit will be available, free, from all Bay Area Thrifty Drug Stores. The test kits will be processed at three Bay Area hospitals, with results mailed back to test-takers. St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center in San Francisco will process tests for San Francisco and Marin residents.

St. Mary's doctors estimate that 2,500 Bay Area residents will test positive for blood in the stool; hundreds of those will have early signs of colorectal cancer. Their lives can be saved.

We want people to know that this cancer is survivable if caught early.

Penny Hill
San Francisco

No More Outcasts

★ I agree completely with Karla Rossi's recent letter.

The purpose of the gay movement is to ensure that homosexuals can live openly and freely as respected members of society, not remain outcasts who are constantly at war with everyone.

It's bad enough that the religious right would keep us locked out of society; it's even worse when some of our own would do the same.

David Nahmod
San Francisco

LETTERS

Motorcycles

★ In response to Jay Hice's letter concerning motorcycle clubs (March 29), and the possibility of forming a new one, I would like to add a few thoughts. It is true AIDS has made great inroads on the biker community, but another reason for the dwindling of bike clubs has been that for the past decade or more, hardly a club in the city is to be seen out in overlay, having a good time together. Thus none of the many new young bikers holds them as any kind of ideal.

When I first came to San Francisco, just to see the Warlocks out having brunch, their bikes lined up outside The Levee was enough to make anyone want to be one of the "big boys," go out and get a Harley and kick up a storm. Even with the Eagle jammed to the rafters on Sundays, this kind of thing just isn't to be experienced any more. And the Warlocks, San Francisco's premiere bike club, is now all but defunct for want of new membership. Los Angeles still maintains this spirit, especially with the Satyrs, who for decades have given the the largest gay bike run in the world at Badger Flats in the Sierras and they have an active line-up of would-be members any other club would fall over themselves to accept.

My advice to Jay Hice is remember that a bike club, to be successful and long-lived, is a camaraderie of the spirit rather than a clash of egos (as is too often the case). Then to go out and make the good times roll again, with a whole group of leather, biker buddies, having a whale of a good time.

Ron Johnson
Rainbow M/C, San Francisco

Ed. Note: In last week's issue, the phone number for persons interested in forming a gay motorcycle club was misprinted. It should have been 861-2872.

Thankful Patient

★ After living with AIDS now for six months and losing 40 pounds (145 to 105), I've finally found a clinic that specializes in HIV. Dr. Mark Lambertus and his staff at VIRX are exceptional.

In one month their guidance has stopped my decline. My energy level is improving and my weight loss is on hold. I know this is due to the proper prescriptions that were not tried earlier.

If you can't bear to see one more doctor, just pick up the phone and call Dr. Mark at 474-2233. Talk to him, he's surely a shining star in this terrible battle.

Bob Wieghaus
San Mateo

Grammar Glitch

★ Iconoclast Robert Chesley may describe himself as a "queer queer" in Ronald Blustein's "Profile" of the playwright (B.A.R. 3/22/90), but any good dictionary would not encourage anyone to describe himself also as a "deviant among deviants (sic)." Up to now, as far as I know, deviation's done by deviates, not "deviants." In other words, it's usually deviates who deviate; "deviants" don't, or perhaps shouldn't.

Protect the language Robert, and your right to expose your sexual turn-ons. And by all means deviate. I know you will.

Patrick Glennon
San Francisco

Thanks Jerry and Pat

★ We would like to acknowledge the support the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco has received from Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair. Not only have they been supportive of us during their reign as Emperor and Empress—not only have they been supportive of us everytime we have asked—but they have been supportive to us consistently for the past four years. They never seem to be too busy to attend our concerts, fundraisers or anniversary parties.

Yes, Jerry and Pat have given us cold hard cash. Yes, they have given us a variety of in-kind donations. And yes, even more important, they have given us a larger family with whom we share many warm and happy times.

On behalf of the board of directors and chorus, thank you Pat and Jerry for your many hours—and your many dollars—which you keep giving unconditionally to the chorus and community.

Executive Committee:
Michael Clarke, Lisa Fiorelli, Guy McGinnis,
Rose Mary Mitchell, Pat Parr, Linda Rohde
San Francisco

Quilt Will Endure

★ In response to the letter criticizing the building to house the Quilt, please, for a moment, consider the following musings:

Imagine the year 2020. A young gay youth, born in the year 2000, hitch-hikes from Des Moines, Iowa, to San Francisco. His great uncle died of AIDS in 1988. He has come here to see the Quilt and to touch Uncle Leon's panel.

Few of us will be around then to witness this event, but the Quilt will. Few of us will be here to participate in the events going on inside that building. But the young gay lad from Iowa will. To those of us still here in the year 2020, AIDS will be a memory of pain and suffering, defeat and triumph, love and loss. To the lad from Iowa, AIDS will be something that touched his family years before he was born. The Quilt will be that which touches his heart.

I salute the efforts to bring a building to that tired vacant corner at Noe and Market Streets. I encourage the efforts to house the Quilt, and to surround it with a space to benefit our community both now and in the future.

David Thompson
San Francisco

Making A Difference

★ Yes, Gay Asian Men can come together in a positive way. I have been a GAPA member for a year, and the experience has taught me both about Gay and Asian pride.

I was attracted to GAPA by the energy and vigor in which they tackle both Gay and Asian issues. (AIDS Crisis-response-GAPA's HIV Community project. Beijing Student Massacre-response-march and support the Chinese for Democracy Movement.)

This vital organization has given me the motivation and direction to come out, work for AIDS causes, as well as speaking out for human rights.

I hope for another exciting year as Gay Asian Men are coming together to make a real difference.

George Choy
GAPA Member, San Francisco

Silent No More

★ Now is the time for all gay brothers to come to the aid of their culture. The '90s are here guys and we still do not know who we are as a gay race. The '60s and '70s were decades where we began to ignite our passions. But all too sorrowfully our brains were in our genitals and our attempt to define ourselves was lost in frenzy of thoughtless debauchery and promiscuity. We carelessly provoked the hetero culture by rudely putting our penises in the face of society.

And in the '80s, when our dicks went limp with the onslaught of AIDS, we became pitiful puppets controlled by the unrighteous judgements of a hetero-religious thought structure. As death stared us in the face and as society pointed their fingers, the '80s left us defenseless, guilt-ridden and silenced by our own inability to clearly define the beauty and integrity of who we are as a gay race. Unlike what we have so foolishly led society to believe, we are more than a bunch of crazed cocksuckers destined to die and burn in hell for our immoralities.

The '90s are here and I am one gay man who will not be silenced any longer. I implore each and every person whose eyes fall upon these words to support one another in re-defining and sanctifying who and what we are as a gay brotherhood. This next decade will be a time for us to come together as one. Through reclaiming our sex, drugs and ritual rites as defined under our own terms, we will become a world (religious) power not to be reckoned with.

We are a vital culture; we do have a history; we are a colorful, intelligent, spiritual and varied brotherhood. We come from every walk of life and every world religion. We are powerful and we are rich. We have much to offer the human race.

I beckon you this day to wake up and follow me! Follow this truth. I shall continue to dream this dream, speak these words and give myself completely until I behold my brotherhood in a state of comfort and peace. I love you. Remember my name.

Rick De John - aka - Messiah
San Francisco

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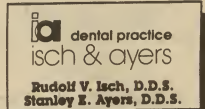


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Governor's Race

How dirty has the Democratic race for governor gotten? How much dirtier will it get? With the stakes so high, we can expect the battle between Dianne Feinstein and John Van de Kamp to get a lot worse before the June 5 primary.

A campaign for governor of the nation's most populous state was never meant to be a polite debating society outing, and both Feinstein and Van de Kamp have apparently decided it will not be.

Van de Kamp, finding himself falling further and further behind Feinstein in numerous polls, started the "negative" campaigning by introducing a television commercial attack-

ing Feinstein by blaming her for just about every ill problem that he had ever heard of, particularly if it had anything to do with San Francisco, where Feinstein reigned as mayor for nearly 10 years.

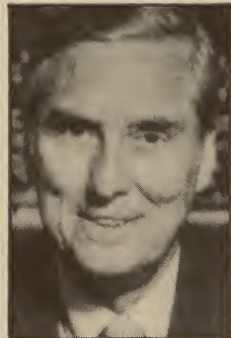
It seems to be working—for the moment, anyway.

The latest *L.A. Times* poll shows Feinstein's huge 19-point lead dropping to 11 points, due probably, to Van de Kamp's television advertising comeback.

Not one to be outdone, the front-running Feinstein quickly put out her own television spot "suggesting" there was a comparison between Van de Kamp's smear tactics and that of Richard Nixon's U.S. Senate

campaign four decades ago.

As the campaign of 30-second negative sound-bites escalates, and it surely will, voters should be wary of all such ads. Both Feinstein and Van de Kamp have their good sides—and their weaknesses—but either of them, or even Pete Wilson for that matter, would be an improvement over the incumbent governor.



Sen. Lloyd Bentsen

This writer will vote for Feinstein in June—I think she has the good common sense and "tough but caring" attitude to make a hell of a governor.

However, regardless of which candidate you favor for governor, if you haven't already made up your mind, don't let the negative 30-second television smear pieces do it for you.

As this week's *L.A. Times* put it, "for all the confusion and distortions thrown at voters in an election campaign, they often wind up making good decisions."

This is why Feinstein and Van de Kamp would be mistaken to overlook any opportunity to demonstrate to California voters that they are both experienced, intelligent candidates who do indeed have valid ideas about how this state should be run.

Hatch Comes Around

One of the more pleasant surprises coming out of Washington is the apparent "education" of Sen. Orrin Hatch, the conservative Republican from Utah.

Hatch, who once called the Democrats "the party of homosexuals," has publicly apologized for the remark, has sided with liberal senators on a number of issues, and when the homophobic, anti-gay Jesse Helms of North Carolina tried recently to attach a crippling amendment to a bill on AIDS education, Hatch, who is a lay Mormon minister, faced Helms down on the Senate

floor, asking him "who are we to judge anyway—let he who is without sin cast the first stone."

In a further debate with the bigoted Helms, who had complained that the particular bill was the "flagship of the homosexual-lesbian agenda," Hatch retorted that it was deceitful and misleading to suggest that the bill created any rights for gays.

He called violence against gays "wrong and against everything that we as Americans stand for."

Orrin Hatch, a sensible, passionate conservative, who believes that the needs of people come before the political philosophy of any party.

Houston Runoff

In next week's April 10 runoff in Houston, to head the Harris County Democratic Party, a politically powerful post in that city, the contest is between Sen. Lloyd Bentsen's nephew, Ken Bentsen, and Leslie Perez, who underwent a sex change operation after 10 years in prison for murder. The race is rated a toss-up.

Cold Shoulder

Pete Wilson is getting the cold shoulder from the ultra-conservative California Republican Assembly, meeting in San Diego last week. Giving the sure GOP gubernatorial nominee "a vote of no confidence" might have done more for Wilson's political future than hurt it.

Odds and Ends

A reader called recently to remind me that the column I ran a couple of weeks ago on "Women in California Politics," in which we discussed the women running for different statewide offices, neglected to mention that yet another woman, Merle Woo, is the Peace and Freedom candidate for governor, and I apologize for the oversight.

Another reader says that the "Best Actor" award at last week's Oscar ceremony "should have gone to conservative Republican actor Charlton Heston for pretending to look pleased as he was announcing that the Best Documentary Award had been won by a film that said nice things about gays and AIDS sufferers."

Mayor Art Agnos last week gave his support to a plan to tear down the earthquake-damaged Embarcadero Freeway and replace it with a sub-surface expressway, and the quicker some of the supervisors see the light and vote to tear the damned thing down, the better.

Now, another thing—can't someone at City Hall do something about the filthy streets? I mean, the streets of this city are dirty and getting dirtier.

Maybe on the scope of things—there is the AIDS epidemic, homeless people, earthquake costs, etc., but when a New Yorker, visiting here, complains and comments about "San Francisco's dirty streets not being that way before," they must really be bad.

The sheriff complains that the jails are overcrowded—and they are certainly—so why not let some of the defendants work off some of their sentence time cleaning the streets?

Again, it might seem like a small thing, but I have never seen the streets of San Francisco as cluttered and filthy as they now are; it does little to enhance the reputation of this town as the "city beautiful" when you can walk ankle deep in garbage any day on Market Street or just about any other street.

Van de Kamp is having it both ways on the capital punishment issue, saying to some that he is against the death penalty and then telling a roomful of reporters that he is calling for the courts to keep the way clear for Robert Alton Harris' execution, saying "Harris has had his day in court, in fact, he has had 11 years in court."

Eighteen different courts have upheld his conviction. It is time to conclude this case.

In Columbia, S.C., a court awarded a car dealer customer recently when the customer purchased a used Volkswagen from the Nix Used Car Center.

The buyer, Tommy Carter, had been assured by the dealership that if anything went wrong with the car, they would gladly repair it. Well, it did and they didn't, so Mr. Carter, annoyed at their lack of service, drove repeatedly by the dealership with a sign attached to the car, saying it was a "Nix Lemon."

The Nix folks then revealed a sign of their own, reading, "Tommy Carter is a faggot," Mr. Carter sued for slander, and the court last week awarded him \$73,300 (is there a moral here that maybe says never trust a homophobic used car dealer?).

Here they go again: a recent New Jersey Catholic Conference held in Trenton blasted the state Health Department over a new program to give condoms to AIDS testing and counseling centers.

Clergy: "Condom distribution encourages sexual permissiveness, increases risks of spreading AIDS."

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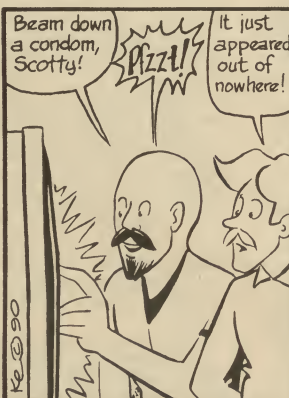
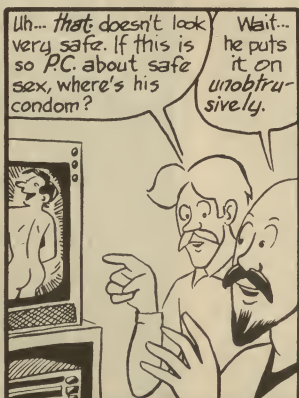
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MURPHY'S MANOR



by Kurt Erichsen

Vancouver or Bust

The crowd is hushed. For most of the afternoon the 38-year-old player with the fiery eyes and cascading auburn locks has fought tremendous odds to stay in the game. Now he has battled his way from certain defeat to the edge of victory. After countless ad outs followed by desperate deuce saves, he is at last poised to claim the game, the match and the set.

The ball is tossed into the air. The serve is clean, strong and hard, but his opponent returns it with equal force and precision. The server rallies and places the ball in his opponent's forecourt. The opponent rushes the net and smashes the ball, but, miraculously, the server races backward, reaches with all his might and drives the ball down the sideline, just out of his opponent's reach.



The game is over. The crowd goes wild. Mike Hippler has just advanced to the second round of the men's singles competition at Gay Games III in Vancouver, Canada. The object of his quest — the elusive gold medal — is one step nearer his reach.

At least that's how I envisioned it four years ago when I decided to compete in the 1990 Gay Games. Or have I

distorted the fantasy since then? Actually, I wasn't particularly interested in winning at the time. Victory wasn't the point; participation was. As I watched the opening and closing ceremonies, I just wanted to be a part of all the excitement on the field rather than in the stands for a change.



Victory Would Be Nice

Still, victory would be nice, I thought. "Just one game," I said to myself. "That's all I ask. Just one game."

Realistically, I knew it wasn't likely to happen, primarily because I have never been very good at tennis in the first place. Oh, I can hold my own; I've been playing since I was 12. But I've never played on a team. I've never even entered a tournament. I've always dreaded facing strangers on the court, and I've usually preferred rallying over playing sets, even with friends, because I dislike competition so intensely.

Yet let's face it — competition is the name of the game in sports. You can't experience the thrill of victory without risking the possibility of defeat.

True, Tom Waddell, the founder of the Gay Games, tried to change all this.

"There were no minimal standards [at Gay Games II]," he said. "You didn't have to be great, just serious about your sport. We knew there were going to be better teams, better times elsewhere, but we didn't care. Instead, we wanted to redefine winning. For us, it wasn't beating anyone else but doing your best."

In the beginning, most of the athletes in the games seemed to share Waddell's view. They may have wanted medals, but they wanted respect more. And they knew that respect was based more often on effort than on talent. Many also learned to value community needs over individual success. They learned to surmount previously insurmountable barriers, such as racial, gender and age differences, for example.

Indeed, many of their fondest memories were not of the races they won but of the friends they made and the good times they had.



Much Has Changed

Since then, however, much has changed. Tom Waddell is no longer with us to inspire and to guide, and in his absence, many of us seem to have lost our way. When I first asked a member of the local tennis team how to join his group, he explained that the best way was simply to show up on the courts on Flint Street.



"But if you're not very good," he added, "you might not want to bother. Most of the guys don't like to waste their time on less-advanced players, and you might not feel comfortable."

Another friend of mine admitted that she wasn't interested in playing volleyball until she found a group who wanted to take the game "seriously."

The captain of that group told her, "We don't want to look like amateurs on the court. We want to win."

Yet another friend is inordinately proud of his soccer team, not because they have heart but because they have a great record. He loves his sport, but if the team lost all their games, I suspect he wouldn't keep playing for long — at least not with that particular group.

All this is rather discouraging, but I remain undaunted. No rule says I have to win, after all. Which is just as well, for it's very unlikely to happen. Just before the last games I tore a ligament in my knee while playing soccer, and as a result I spent the entire week on a pair of crutches. I have yet to recover fully, despite two operations and years of therapy. A sports brace has been totally inadequate, and further injury on the tennis courts and ski slopes hasn't helped. I haven't even played

tennis in more than a year, and I won't have a chance to play before Vancouver, because I'll be traveling in Europe all summer.

So why am I going? I could blame it on my boyfriend, a superb swimmer who thrives on competition but wisely refrains from making a go of it. Medals litter his apartment, and swimming schedules cover the refrigerator door. He takes all this for granted and makes no attempt to impose his values on me.

Still, it's hard not to let his enthusiasm for sports influence me. Even if I don't want medals of my own, I want to share some part of the experience.

Yet I can't simply blame him. The truth is far more complicated than that. Even if I had never met my boyfriend, and even if the values of so many other athletes hadn't changed, I would still be going to the games. I may forfeit the first game out of fear and anxiety. I may show up but throw it deliberately out of medical necessity. I may struggle to win and fail. Against all odds, I may even win a game or two.

But at least I'm going to be there. I made a promise to myself last time, you see, that if I survived the next four years — which was by no means guaranteed — I would participate. Not everyone who made a similar promise, including Tom Waddell himself, has been able to keep it. I owe it to them, and to myself, to sign on as an athlete, whatever the consequences.

Besides, if I don't, how else will I qualify for free housing? ▼

Bike-A-Thon to Mark Sixth Anniversary

AIDS Bike-A-Thon turns six years old on Saturday, May 12, 1990. Registration for the event kicked off on April Fool's Day at 18th and Castro Streets in San Francisco. Cyclists new to this annual will have a chance to join the 1,500 veteran peddlers who raised \$350,000 in pledges in 1989 to assist in direct care and educational services for people with AIDS.

Since Different Spokes began the fund raising effort in 1985, the San Francisco-based bicycle club has spearheaded raising 1.5 million dollars. Each year, 100 per cent of the money raised goes directly to the beneficiary agencies selected by the riders gathering pledges. And like

preceding years, the Bike-A-Thon is staffed entirely by volunteers, now totalling over 300.

For many cyclists and volunteers, the 1990 Bike-A-Thon holds special meaning. The founder of the ride, Bob Humason died in August of last year of AIDS-related causes and this year's event has been dedicated in his memory.

The 1990 beneficiaries were selected by the formula established in 1985, mandating that the beneficiary must have a certified 501 (c) (3) non-profit status, provide direct services to persons with AIDS or educational services targeted to underserved populations and must be from one of the nine Bay Area counties. ▼

Common Threads At Lumiere

Common Threads: Stories From The Quilt, the winner of the 1990 feature documentary Oscar, will begin a theatrical engagement on Friday, April 6 at the Lumiere Cinema, 1572 California St.

Common Threads tells the story of the first decade of AIDS in America by chronicling the lives of five people lost to the deadly disease. *Common Threads* focuses on how the individuals' loved ones come to terms with their loss through participation in the Names Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt. The stories cover a cross section of people with

AIDS, including an Olympic decathlon star, and intravenous drug user and an 11-year-old hemophiliac.

Common Threads: Stories From The Quilt is directed by Rob Epstein (*The Times Of Harvey Milk*—Oscar winner in 1985) and Jeffrey Friedman (*Faces of the Enemy*) and co-produced by Bill Couturie (director of the Emmy Award-winning *Dear America: Letters Home From Vietnam*), Epstein and Friedman. The film is narrated by Dustin Hoffman and features an original musical score composed and performed by Bobby McFerrin.

For showtimes, phone 885-3200. ▼

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April's Fool

by Dave Ford

In *Cry-Baby*, former underground (and still openly gay) filmmaker John Waters' jolly teen flick send-up (it opens tomorrow), 21 *Jump Street* hunk Johnny Depp plays the title character. He's a juvenile delinquent with a heart of gold.

And Jockey shorts of white. This we learn when Cry-baby's pants snag on a nail as he crawls through underground tunnels during a prison break. The scene seemed playfully suspicious to me, so I brought it up when I spoke to Waters last week.

"Oh, that was *totally* gratuitous," he laughed. "It was for the teenaged girls in the audience." Come on, John. "Well, I didn't notice too many men screaming, at least at the test screenings." And Depp? "Johnny thought it was funny," Waters said. "He trusted me. I would never put in a shot he would be embarrassed about."

The scene balanced one in which co-star Amy Locano's dress is ripped off on a motorcycle ride. "I wouldn't have had one without the other," Waters said.

A true junkie culture connoisseur, Waters has crafted a blistering satire with festive perks for the teenage girl in all of us. See it, girls.

Glamour? Tiger Turds

Perestroika means more sequins! Glasnost means more spandex!

The Moscow Circus's recent Cow Palace performance combined eye-popping human athletic endeavor—trapeze artistry, juggling, equestrianism—with lo-glam, sparkle 'n' dazzle showbiz clichés. It also

proved that bad taste is universal—and universally fabulous.

Dancing bears in neon-colored bikinis! Animal rights activists are right: training bears to do *The Twist* is cruel and unusual punishment. They should teach them to Vogue instead.

Tigers on their hind legs atop twirling, mirrored disco balls! Eight huge tigers performed stupid pet tricks dreamed up and directed by a whip-cracking, tuxedo-clad cheeseball wearing too much lipstick. It's a new form of ritual animal abuse: cat humiliation.

Guys in unflattering red outfits flipping through the air! The trapeze company (imaginatively dubbed "The Flyers") appeared to have made a Faustian deal with gravity: let us fly forever, and forever we'll wear panty-line-baring Kling-Tite trousers.

The horse scene, built around a mythical Cossack tribal battle, proved highly erotic: all those hot studs in chest-baring tunics leaning onto and off of galloping steeds at breakneck speeds. It was a veritable shower of flying thighs and moustaches.

Does Gorby know?

Casting a Paul

I approached Paul McCartney's UC Berkeley Memorial Stadium show with cynical trepidation. Ringo was my favorite Beatle; later, I liked John. I always thought Paul was a ditz. And with few exceptions, his post-Beatles work—and public utterances—did little to change my mind.



David Seibold nears completion of the mural for Eureka Valley Fine Foods. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

But after a rocky start, he changed it Saturday. First came a pointless 11-minute, Beatle-aggrandizing film. Then McCarthy and his band launched into "Figure of Eight," an unremarkable number from his recent *Flowers in the Dirt* LP. He followed with Wings' "Jet" and The Beatles' "Got to Get You Into My Life." And so it went for about eight songs: some new stuff, some Wings stuff, some Beatles stuff. Nothing gelled; even "Long and Winding Road" dragged.

When McCartney dedicated "Fool On the Hill" to "three mates of mine—John, George and Ringo," the crowd naturally cheered. I thought it shameful. When McCartney's psychedelically-painted piano rose and—shades of Elton! Shades of Liberace!—spun in a circle, I contemplated Paulicide.

Paradoxically, however, the next song cracked the concert wide open. "Sgt.

Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" ROARED with a seductive grace. McCartney showed off quirky guitar chops during a mid-song solo trade-off, then the piece climaxed with the rollicking "Reprise."

From then on things ripped. High points included a heart-wrenching "Things We Said Today," a lilting "Eleanor Rigby," a fierce "Back in the USSR," a workably disco-ey "Comin' Up," "Hey Jude" turned into a 60,000 strong sing-along, and the show-capping *Abbey Road* medley rocked ferociously.

Yes, the Beatles tunes were strongest—but not indomitable, as McCartney proved with a tatty, funkified encore of "Love Me Do/PS. I Love You." Yes, the lyrics to his most glamorous arrangements were embarrassingly banal.

And yes, McCartney's Nix-onesque peace signs, phony finger-pointing and vapid onstage patter ("There's a party goin' on!") made him appear cornball ham.

But McCartney comfortably comingled a real eagerness to please with an inarguably—and appropriately—superstarish self-confidence. Avuncular and jowly, he seemed unthreatening yet utterly assured. After all, he was *just being Paul*.

Me? I'd have paid \$30 for the five-minute "Sgt. Pepper."

Glamour?—Jerome

I'd pay \$1,700 for anything created by Jerome. Now I have my chance.

Jerome, a local artist famed for his (her?) elegantly original sartoria (a cross between Divine on diet pills and Madonna on the dole), opened a show Sunday at Art Lick (4147 19th at Collingwood). The 122 works (dare we call them "paintings?") in "Jerome's Compact!" are formed with nail polish, white-out, make-up and enamel. They include "Bozo Trick or Treating In Hell," "Flower Blowjob," "Bite the Big One" and "Shroud of Glama Rama." They range in price from \$50 to \$1,700.

At the afternoon opening, a crush of gender-unspecific admirers, critics and junket queens sipped marshmallow-spiked grape Kool Aid and paid Jerome homage, while s/he munificently dispensed candy rocks from a tray by her throne. Surveying the acres of chignon and eyeliner, adman Ken Woodard sniffed, "So many outfits for so early in the morning."

Ubiquitous drag-muffin Ggreg Taylor fingered my shorts and said, "I remember when these were in. Kidding—just kidding!" Funny—I remember when *she* was in. "Kidding"—just "kidding."

Examiner art critic David Bonetti said, "You can attribute any quote you want to me." O.K. "Dazzling! Extraordinary! An artist is born! Jerome is the freshest presence to burst onto the art scene since Renoir hung up his brushes!—David Bonetti, *San Francisco Examiner*."

Actually, Bonetti said, "This is better than Robert Mapplethorpe. Mapplethorpe's so conventional." Referring to the throgs who caught the controversial photog's recent U.C. Berkeley Museum retrospective, Bonetti added, "A hundred thousand people should come to see this." Judging from the multiple personalities staggering around the room, I'd say they did.

Jerome, draped in black lace and wearing two pairs of tattered fishnets (against the spring chill?), said she "does it for pleasure and to make people laugh." Yeah—but what about her art? Oh: she was talking about her art.

But of course. She doesn't just talk about art. She doesn't just make art. She is art. ▼

FLAG Sponsors 'Evening Out'

Federal Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) will spend the evening "OUT" with their guest speaker Lorri Jean, one of the federal government's highest ranked open lesbians. Ms. Jean is currently Deputy Director of FEMA for Region IX. She is on the Board of Directors of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, was President of the D.C. Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance, Chair of the D.C. Mayor's Domestic Partnership Commission and Founder of the Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Task Force.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 11 at 6 p.m. at Charpe's, 131 Gough Street, San Francisco. A no-host bar and free snacks will be available. A \$2 donation is requested. FLAG is an organization of federally employed lesbians and gays and their friends, founded to provide support within the federal workplace. More info at 695-9174. ▼

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Listening Through A Closed Mind

by Kate Brandt

The standing ovation faded, and the audience sat back down in their chairs, ready to listen to the next speaker. But the woman at the podium was not part of the scheduled panel; she had not even been on the stage before this moment.

"I need to say something just very briefly," she announced. "This is a little bit against the current and you've inspired me." Hmmm, I thought; she was so moved by the first three speakers that she felt compelled to jump up on stage and praise them. A little unorthodox, but...

The impromptu speaker continued. "This is without any disrespect for anybody's right to express their opinion at all."

Uh-oh.

"But I need to say something that hasn't been said during this conference, and that's that not all of us support..."

I speak both for men and for women. And there's room for everyone to say that they do, and we're not censoring that right. But there also needs to be at least one statement before the conference is over that not all of us support that, and I plan to make that statement just right here."

What it was that the woman did not support, I'll get to in a moment. It's beside the point right now. Nor is it relevant that this interruption took place at Out Write '90, the les-

bian and gay writers conference that took place in March. It could have happened anywhere — and that's the problem.

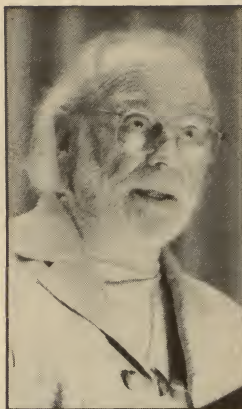
Flapping Lips

It's been said that "the love that dare not speak its name" has become "the love that doesn't shut up." But lately, it's not our love that keeps flapping its lip, but rather the more-politically-correct-than-thou attitude afflicting some members of our community.

It seems as though no sooner does a lesbian or gay man express a public opinion than some self-appointed moralist feels compelled to pass judgment on that opinion. This is how it should be, of course; First Amendment rights and freedom of expression and community dialogue. But it's the *dialogue* part that's missing from most of these encounters.

We've seen a lot of this sort of thing lately. Take, for example, the Does Your Mother Know incident. Those in the community who believed that the store had a right to sell racially-offensive doo-dads felt secure in their right to express that opinion.

But those who opposed the store's policy did *not* have the right to express *that* opinion, in the view of the pro-store camp. And what also got lost in the shuffle was the fact that the anti-store faction did attempt to negotiate with the store;



James Broughton

only when that tactic failed did the anti-knicks crowd go public with their objections.

Then there's David Israel's "Gay Matters" column in the *Bay Guardian*, the one wherein he "awarded" his self-designated "Bitchies" to members of the community. Israel had the opportunity to speak his mind in his column. But when some people responded with letters protesting the "awards," not only did Israel himself become defensive, but several more letters appeared, chastising those who dared to criticize Israel's criticisms.

Back to the Conference

Whew, this is becoming convoluted. Let's go back to the conference. If you missed it, you should know that, time permitting, the panels provided an opportunity for their audiences to ask questions and offer comments at the end of the formal presentation.

The woman in question here

should have been able to address herself to the panelists, offer her objections, and listen to their responses. Instead, she chose to interrupt the gathering, inconvenience the speakers and the audience (who, presumably, came to hear the advertised panelists), and arrogantly announce that "there... needs to be at least one statement... and I plan to make that statement."

Well, thank you; I know I slept better that night.

So, cut to the chase; what was it she objected to, anyway? Well, two of the first three speakers were Harold Norse and James Broughton, who told ribald stories of their horny gay boy- and young-manhoods.

Broughton had the crowd hooting with laughter as he said, "When I was ten years old, my stepfather sent me away to military school to make a man of me. [Artful pause.] School! You can say I came out at the age of ten!"

It was after the standing ovation for Broughton that our friend commandeered the podium to announce, "...[N]ot all of us support sex between children and adults. I speak both for men and for women."

Well, if you're talking about sexual abuse of children, then yes, you speak for me (not that I asked you to). But if you're referring to a youngster's realizing her or (usually) his sexuality at an early age, and *choosing* to act on it (usually with someone not much older, as in Broughton's boarding-school stories), then I say you're sticking your nose into an area about which you have no knowledge or experience, and you should talk with those

you accuse, and not at them.

The "Before Stonewall" panel featured speakers who came out as lesbians and gay men in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. Times were different; social and sexual mores were different. And, more so than today, socially determined attitudes toward gender were different. It's now more acceptable for young women to be sexual adventurers (within the limits of personal safety, of course). The virgin/whore dichotomy no longer exists to the extent it did before the "sexual revolution" of the 1960s.

It's always been acceptable for young men to express their sexuality. But it's still not the wisest thing for a boy to announce that he's gay; and, if it's not cool now, what must it have been like 50, 60 years ago? There was no Hetrick-Martin Institute in the 1920s and '30s (or '40s, '50s, '60s and '70s). Then, as now, you could act on your sexual orientation or you could repress it, usually with unwelcome psychological consequences.

My guess is that one problem this woman has is believing that children can be sexual, and particularly that they can be homosexual. But as Broughton said, "I was born a sissy... And if you are born a sissy, it's wisest to stay a sissy."

Broughton said something else, too, which we would do well to keep in mind when we feel the urge to take ourselves too seriously (present company included):

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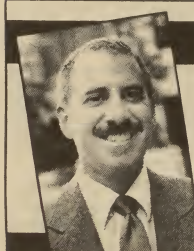
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ROTC

(Continued from page 1)

seeds of my homosexuality
 were always there," he told the
 B.A.R. earlier this week. "In
 my first year at Penn, I started
 to grasp my sexual orientation,
 in my second year, I said 'OK,
 Pete, you're gay, face it.' In my
 second year, I also made the
 transition from realizing I like
 men to realizing it's something
 that the Navy outlaws," he said.

Excruciating Dilemma

According to Laska, the
 dilemma was excruciating.

"I realized I was in a dilem-
 ma, but I was already com-
 mitted, so I thought I would go
 through commissioning, what
 else could I do?"

Laska says that in the begin-
 ning of his junior year at the
 university, he began to become
 more and more disillusioned
 with the Navy and that he was
 also started to be the object of
 harassment.

"That semester, everything
 really fell apart. I went through
 an intense period of harass-
 ment. I had been a pretty good
 midshipman during my first
 and second years, with evalua-
 tions about 3.0. They harassed
 me a lot. I was ostracized. I
 could never pass inspection no
 matter what the job.

"I didn't realize at the time
 I was being harassed. I believ-
 ed what they told me, that I
 was a fuck-up. I just felt I was
 a screwup in their eyes. I was
 becoming paranoid. I thought
 I really wasn't a competent
 leader.

"I was panic-stricken. Final-
 ly, I asked other midshipmen
 why they were being so hard
 on us, then I realized they were
 doing it to just me. At the end
 of the first semester of my
 junior year, I was pretty
 depressed. I couldn't take be-
 ing wrapped up, it was too
 rough to continue to be sub-
 jected to the homophobia,"
 Laskasaid.

Harassment and Grilling

Laska said that the harass-
 ment included a bizarre grill-
 ing into his personal life con-
 ducted by a Marine Corps cap-
 tain responsible for training
 midshipmen.

Laska was asked questions



Peter Laska is being asked to repay his ROTC scholarship.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

about why he didn't belong to
 a fraternity or hang out with
 other midshipmen, what bars
 he drank at, what parties he
 went to and why he lived in a
 dorm inhabited by counter-
 cultural types.

"That was a real turning
 point. It made me angry. I stop-
 ped him and asked him what
 he was trying to get at. I was
 really frantic at this point. He
 said that they were consider-
 ing making me battalion com-
 mander and wanted to make
 sure they weren't making a
 mistake. Later, I learned there
 was never any such considera-
 tion," he said.

Laska's depression about his
 situation — and the harass-
 ment — grew worse. He
 started seeing a therapist in
 November 1986, hired a lawyer
 and wrote his NROTC com-
 mander a letter resigning his
 commission as a midshipman.

Laska was placed on leave
 and then after a hearing signed
 a document that waived his
 rights to speak in his defense at
 a review board.

"I waived the right to speak,
 but I had to show up in my uni-
 form and stand at attention for
 a dozen officers of the unit. I
 had a letter from my psychia-
 trist at the University saying
 yes, I am gay and that I was be-
 ing treated for severe depres-
 sion.

"It was really pretty bad. I
 was suicidal. I didn't think
 there was any way out. Up un-
 til the time they began to
 harass me. I was headed for the
 flight program. I would have
 been a pilot. I spent the sum-
 mer in a Tactical Air Com-
 mand jet!"

On Feb. 11, 1987, Laska was
 notified that he was being
 dismissed from NROTC as
 "unsuitable for service."

In May 1987, Laska was ask-
 ed to sign a document
 stipulating that he was leaving
 the Navy and that he agreed to
 reimburse the Navy for all fees
 and services expended on his
 behalf.

Laska deleted that portion of
 the contract before he signed
 it.

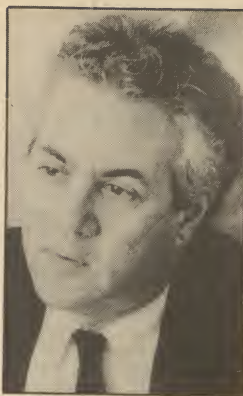
Frisch

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Frisch 90

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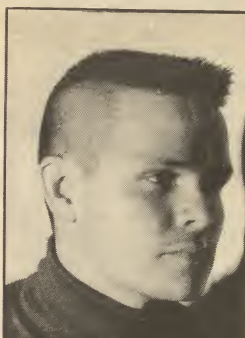


Rep. Barney Frank

"I was very bitter and burned out. I had fallen behind in my studies through the whole process of leaving the Navy. A lot of my classes that were Navy requirements I just dropped. I had no way of paying for school without the Navy. I was running up enormous bursar bills. My heart just wasn't in it. I needed to make some major life changes. I finished everything in my major. I figured I could get a job in architecture," Laska said.

In November 1988, without graduating from the University of Pennsylvania and leaving the broken dream of a military career behind him, Laska moved to San Francisco with his lover. He also left behind his best friend from childhood when the friend rejected him and said he never wanted to see Laska him again when Laska told him he was gay.

Navy Reasserts Claim



Peter Laska

A year later, in December 1989, settled into a new life and a job as a "grunt in an architectural firm," Laska got a letter from the Navy reasserting its claim for \$25,600. The letter requested a check payable to the Navy or that he arrange to make payments on the amount.

"At first I was in a state of shock. I just couldn't believe they were serious. Two days later my parents called. My mother was in tears. It was so heart-wrenching. They were frantic. A letter came to them. That angers me just so much. They didn't have anything to do with this," Laska said.

According to Laska, his parents didn't sign or co-sign his grant agreement with the Navy.

They did, however, sign a release allowing him to join the Navy as a midshipman when he was a minor. He says his parents have been threatened by the Navy with a judgment against them if he does not repay the scholarship

grant. Laska's mother is 69, his father 70.

No Help from NGRA, ACLU

In January, Laska began trying to find legal assistance.

"I called the ACLU and they said that my situation didn't sound like anything they'd be interested in. I called National Gay Rights Advocates and the gist of what they told me was that I had a problem with a bill collector. It was pretty demoralizing. That response knocked me flat," Laska said.

In my second year, I said, 'OK, Pete, you're gay, face it.'

Leonard Graff, NGRA acting executive director, expressed surprise that Laska received such a response.

"It's unfortunate that we can't take every case. We try to take cases representative of issues or common problems and try to set precedent in one case that has an effect on all other cases," Graff told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

He said that the agency did not have a similar case and re-



Leonard Graff

quested Laska to call him directly.

Laska's experience with homophobia in the Navy has changed him a great deal, he feels.

"I'm not quite the little Republican I was when I started out. I couldn't see myself in the service, now. It really wouldn't stop the institutional garbage. I wish there was a National Coming Out Day for the military. It would really fall apart."

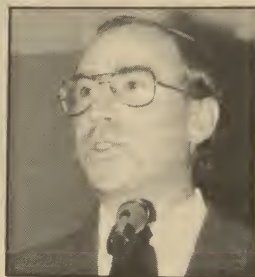
2 More Gay Cadets Hit With Pay Back Demands

U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) has called on the U.S. Navy to abandon plans to order two Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps midshipmen to repay their entire Navy scholarship grants because they are gay.

The midshipmen, David Carney, a Harvard University student, and Robert Bettiker, a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, both have exemplary academic and military records. Last fall, the Navy suspended both men from NROTC, in unrelated actions, and ordered that Carney repay his \$50,000 scholarship and Bettiker his \$40,000 grant. Both men have expressed their desire to complete their training and be commissioned as Naval officers.

In March this year Studds protested a similar action taken by the Army ROTC against cadet James Holobaugh, a student at Washington University in St. Louis. Holobaugh has been asked to return \$25,000 in scholarship funds to the U.S. government.

"These cases are absolutely



Rep. Gerry Studds

appalling," Studds said. "To throw out a dedicated member of the ROTC simply because he is gay is bad enough. To then force him to repay his scholarship grant is unthinkable—and must not go unchallenged."

Studds has contacted Secretary of the Navy H. Lawrence Garrett III and Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney, urging them not to seek repayment of the Navy scholarship grants. The Studds letter was co-signed by more than two dozen Members of Congress from across the country.



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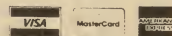
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RSVP



Wilson

(Continued from page 1)

bian/gay rights bill, which retiring Gov. George Deukmejian vetoed when it passed the Legislature.

Marty Keller, co-chair of Wilson's San Francisco campaign staff and chairman of the United Log Cabin Clubs, a statewide organization of gay Republican groups, categorically denied Wyman was representing Wilson at the CRA convention.

"Phil Wyman spoke on his own authority and is in trouble," Keller told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The senator is committed to ending discrimination against people who are in our community. While I can't presume to speak for the senator like Phil Wyman did, that's been the senator's position all along."

Keller said Assemblyman Patrick Nolan had been designated to represent Wilson at the CRA convention, not Wyman. Keller could offer no explanation of why Wyman declared he was representing Wilson.

Bill Livingston, Wilson's campaign press secretary, said he had spoken with the senator on Monday, following press reports on the Wyman statements, and confirmed that Assemblyman Nolan had been designated to represent Wilson at the convention, and not Wyman. Like Keller, Livingston could offer no explanation as to Wyman's statements.

"Sen. Wilson supported federal legislation which prevented discrimination in employment and in housing—two different bills," Livingston told the *Bay Area Reporter*.



Sen. Pete Wilson

"That's probably the strongest indication of his position. He's against discrimination; he's already on record as opposing discrimination in those two areas."

Asked if Wilson as governor would be willing to sign a gay civil rights law like AB 1, Livingston said, "I talked to [Wilson] a little bit earlier today [April 2] and he just doesn't know the specifics to the bill. There are several different variations now since back in 1984, and he just doesn't have enough information to go specific on that bill."

Livingston added, "But it's safe to say Sen. Wilson has not turned into Rep. [William] Dannemeyer."

Despite Wyman's assurance to CRA conservatives that Wilson was "listening to your agenda," most of the convention delegation remained unimpressed with Wyman's pitch, not because of his claim that Wilson would veto a state gay rights bill but because the senator is perceived as "soft" on other far-right issues.

CRA delegates gave rousing cheers, for example, to a young, comparative political unknown who is also running against Wilson in the primary for the Republican gubernatorial slot.

Jeff Greene, a 21-year-old leader of Young Americans for Freedom, drew repeated ovations at the convention as he slashed out at Wilson's record on abortion, gay rights, gun control and the environment.

Greene called Wilson "a rabid environmentalist" with "far more in common with the Democrats than the Republicans."

"Pete is taking you — the conservatives, the Christians, the pro-lifers and the pro-gunners — for granted," Greene told the cheering CRA delegates.

The CRA convention voted to withhold its endorsement of any candidate in the coming gubernatorial election, but did include in its "no confidence" letter to Wilson a "congratulating" paragraph to Greene and write-in candidate, Dr. William B. Allen, the former chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Allen, who is still a member of the commission, was forced to resign the chair following an address entitled "Blacks? Animals? Homosexuals? What Is a Minority?" at a public policy symposium sponsored by the Anaheim-based, anti-gay rights Traditional Values Coalition last year.

Allen opposes abortion, gun-control legislation and gay rights laws.

California's proposed gay rights law has been repeatedly introduced in the Legislature since the late 1970s and has either failed to win a majority or, when passed, has been vetoed.

Local Gay GOP: Candidates Similar

by Wayne Friday and Allen White

Local gay Republicans claim there is little difference between gubernatorial candidates Dianne Feinstein, John Van de Kamp or Pete Wilson.

Ron Kershaw, president of the gay Log Cabin Club, said, "Whether Wilson, Feinstein or Van de Kamp wins, the gay community is going to be so much better off."

The belief that records are similar for each of the candidates is a strong theme among Republicans.

Chris Bowman, vice-chair of the Republican Party of San Francisco, expanded on a similar belief.

"I would say there is basically not a whole lot of difference between him, Van de Kamp and Feinstein either on our issues or on women's issues," Bowman said.

"Pete Wilson's record on fighting Jesse Helms and the Armstrong amendments has been very good. My feeling is here is very little difference in any three of the candidates and I believe the candidates should be chosen on other issues because basically it is a wash."

T.J. Anthony, a Democratic gay activist, said the comparison is "absurd. Each of the three candidates has a record," he said. "If you were to compare Pete Wilson's record with Jesse Helms on gay rights then the discussion would have greater credibility than comparing Pete Wilson's gay rights record with Dianne Feinstein and John Van de Kamp."

"Wilson's record on lesbian and gay rights is clearly far closer to the record of Jesse Helms than it is to Dianne Feinstein or John Van De Kamp."

Regarding Wilson signing anti-discrimination legislation such as AB 1, Bowman said, "I think it depends on what is in it. It has been a dead issue for the last six years. It hasn't even got a hearing since 1984. I think if the language is the same as in 1984, regarding employment, non-discrimination with the exemptions for religious organizations, he would sign it. I think he would sign it but who knows what the legislation would look like when it made it to his desk."

Kershaw said, "I believe very strongly that Wilson will

be the kind of governor that will support a responsible AB1."

Local Democrats question Wilson's integrity on gay rights issues. Ron Braithwaite, co-chair of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, said, "I notice he hasn't signed on to the congressional gay rights amendment that has been sitting there for quite some time. If he won't come out for lesbian/gay rights in Congress, then why will he come out for lesbian/gay rights as governor?"

Anthony also questions Wilson's motives.

"Wilson on Oct. 21, 1986, told the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance in San Francisco he would co-sponsor the lesbian/gay civil rights bill and at that time is quoted as saying, 'I am prepared to make that statement of support.' Two years later on Aug. 21, 1988, Wilson said, 'I would like to look at the legislation before indicating support' and said those who questioned his judgement were rushing to judgment."

"Why this is so significant is that in that two year time period he said he was prepared to do it and then, two years later, he said he hadn't even looked at the legislation. He gave the same answer in 1987 as he gave in 1988. Pete Wilson has refused to say if he will include lesbian and gay people in civil rights laws. He has refused to commit himself to this and it doesn't take a lot of energy to do this."

Anthony says this is important because the San Francisco civil rights law is in jeopardy at this time.

"If our human rights ordinance is thrown out and we lose civil rights protections, we will need a governor in California who will not only sign the legislation but will swiftly act to get the legislature to get the legislation for signature."

"He voted to gut parts of Washington's gay rights ordinance. He voted to cut off all federal funds to educational, medical and mental health institutions that distribute gay positive materials," Anthony charges.

"Pete Wilson is like a slot machine. You can rely on losing 90 percent of the time." ▼

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Lesbian/Gay Law Students' Series Is Open to Public

Topics ranging from immigration and AIDS to joint adoption and co-parenting will be addressed in a series of discussions scheduled April 9 through 12 at the Golden Gate University School of Law, 536 Mission St.

Sponsored by the Lesbian/Gay Law Students in observance of Individual Human Rights Week, the lecture series is free and open to the public.

"Immigration and AIDS: an International Legal Problem" opens the series on Monday, April 9 in the Moot Court-

room.

Ruthann Robson, a Bay Area attorney, will discuss "Relationship Contracts" from 4-5 p.m., Tuesday, April 10, in Room 322.

On Wednesday, Maria Gio De Lamadrid of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, will talk about "Joint Adoption and Co-Parenting" from noon-1 p.m. in Room 308.

The final topic in the series is "Fetal Protection through Maternal Prosecution."

For more information, call (415) 442-7250. ▼

National Briefs

Barney Frank Delays Decision

BOSTON (AP) — Five-term Congressman Barney Frank says he will not announce for re-election until the House Committee on Ethics completes a probe of his relationship with a male prostitute. However, he was joined by two California congressmen at a campaign fund-raising dinner Saturday night at the Copley Plaza Hotel at which 350 people were expected at \$250 per plate. "I'm going to wait until the ethics process is completed," Frank said before the dinner. The Newton Democrat declined to speculate on what the committee will report or when the work will be completed. The Californians, Reps. Norman Mineta, chairman of the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, and Thomas Lantos, co-chairman of the Human Rights Caucus, praised Frank and Lantos urged him to seek re-election. Frank, an avowed homosexual, earlier admitted hiring Steven Gobie as a prostitute and later as a housekeeper and driver. He said he dismissed Gobie after learning he was operating a prostitution firm from the apartment. ▼

Pittsburgh Ordinance Signed

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Gay rights activists have praised a new city ordinance prohibiting landlords, employers, restaurants or anyone else from discriminating against someone because of sexual preference. Mayor Sophie Masloff signed the bill Wednesday, officially making it law. The measure, which Pittsburgh City Council defeated last year but passed last week, was criticized by some community groups who said city officials shouldn't try to legislate morality. ▼

Fla. Official Caught in Sting

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A University of Florida assistant vice president resigned Thursday following his misdemeanor arrest for alleged lewd homosexual acts at a public park during an undercover sting operation, police said. Stephen F. Brannon, 46, a vice president for development, was arrested Tuesday and charged with battery and committing a lewd and lascivious act after he allegedly exposed his genitals and fondled a police officer on a racquetball court, said police spokeswoman Lt. Sadie Darnell. The battery charge was based on the alleged fondling, not on any violent act, Lt. Darnell said. Brannon, who was promoted to the fund-raising position in January after working for the university's law school since 1987, referred all questions to his attorney, who could not be reached for comment. ▼

Ohio Gays Win Adoption Rights

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The director of an advocacy group for gays and lesbians says an Ohio Supreme Court decision places homosexuals on an equal footing with heterosexuals when it comes to adoptions. "We just want to be treated in adoption matters, as in all other matters, like anyone else," said Michael McFadden, of Stonewall Union in Columbus. In a 6-1 ruling, the court upheld the eligibility of homosexuals to adopt children but said such matters must be decided on a case-by-case basis. Justices ruled that an 8-year-old Licking County boy who had been placed in at least four different foster homes could be adopted by Melvin Lee Balser, a psychological counselor who is a homosexual. ▼

Rights Victory in New York

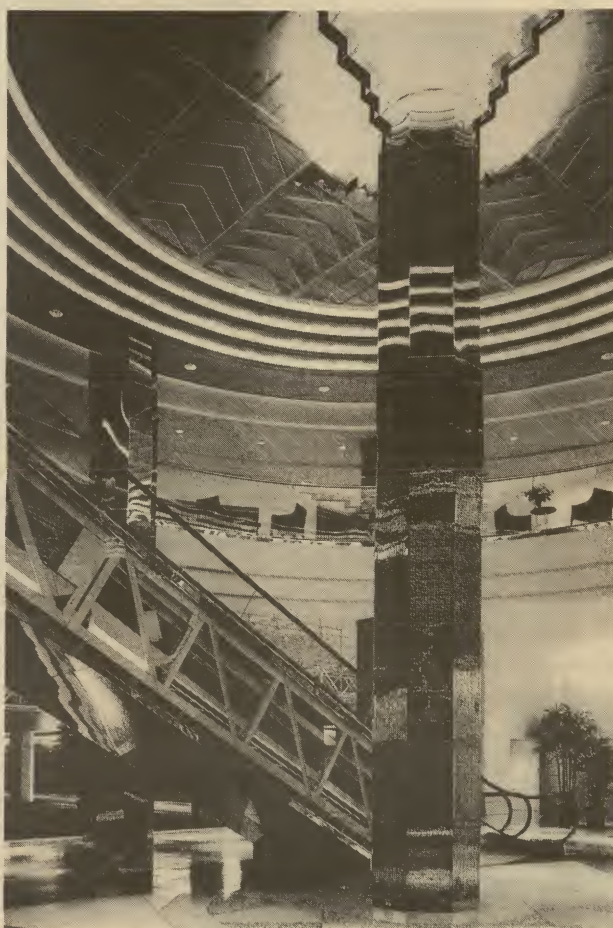
In an important AIDS discrimination ruling on the rights of health-care workers, the Office for Civil Rights of the federal Department of Health & Human Services ordered Westchester County, NY, Medical Center to reinstate an HIV-infected pharmacist to his job with full backpay and without restrictions. Rejecting the Medical Center's claim that it needed to put limits on the pharmacist's performance of certain job duties, OCR held that discrimination because of HIV status violates the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits handicap discrimination. Citing medical expertise and guidelines by the federal Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") and others, OCR observed that there is no "significant risk that he will transmit his HIV infection to others," even in the preparation of intravenous or parenteral products. ▼

Daley Scores Win Against Gays

Despite historic coalition-building, gays, lesbians, women, Latinos, blacks, Asians, Arabs, immigrants and refugees lost a major battle in the Chicago City Council March 21 when Mayor Richard Daley's proposed reorganization of the Commission on Human Relations finally passed. The reorganization merges the city's various official "minority" advisory groups into CHR, allegedly stripping them of fundamental autonomy and individual clout. Activists had stalled Daley's plans for nearly six months, arguing that his plan was "re-referred" back to committee from the Council floor. But Daley finally received 32 votes from the council. Only 13 aldermen opposed the reorganization. "Now we know who we can trust and who will go with the mayor rather than the communities they supposedly serve," said Rick Garcia, a member of Action Network for Lesbian and Gay Issues, which led the battle against the reorganization. Minorities dislike Daley's plan for several reasons, including: They had no input into the drafting of the legislation and their suggested amendments were ignored; the reorganization, as Garcia put it, "effectively makes these [minority] councils rubber-stamps or simple mouthpieces for Daley. There will be no autonomy and no real community input into the selection process for members of these commissions. —Rex Wockner

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Iowa

(Continued from page 2)

ed into the hospice when it opened on March 13.

A blaze that authorities determined was arson erupted at the facility late in the night of March 17 and was discovered by Carnes who said he had been up late that night because of trouble sleeping.

At the time of the fire, Carnes told police he had been awake when the fire broke out in an adjoining garage and he roused the other resident before summoning firefighters who, despite earlier threats, responded quickly to the blaze and prevented it spreading.

The building, a sidebyside duplex, however, suffered extensive smoke and fire damage forcing the two men to be housed temporarily at the homes of volunteers.

County officials and representatives of various AIDS agencies had decided on Monday, March 26, to keep the facilities temporarily closed until police made an arrest in the case.

At the same time, Carnes on his own initiative and in defiance of Cedar Valley AIDS Support Services, which operates the hospice, moved back into the facility.

At a news conference outside the hospice at the time, Carnes told reporters, "The world is on fire with an epidemic, so a little blaze here isn't very scary."

Officials with the Cedar Valley AIDS Support Services which operates the hospice under a lease from the county, said the facility would be kept closed "indefinitely" while they try to determine what to do about the recent developments.

Dave Hays of the Cedar Valley AIDS Support System, said, "At this point we don't have any other local person with AIDS who is willing to move into that building. The others, because of all the publicity and the fear and harassment have opted not to [move in]."

Jim Glaze, the Evansdale councilman who initially led opposition to the hospice, claiming that the residents were not being properly screened before being located in the small community of some 4,800 people, softened his opposition to the hospice following the first reports of the fire, before Carnes was implicated.

He set up a reward fund to help apprehend the arsonist and even visited the hospice the night Carnes moved back in, hugged him before leaving and told him, "I hope everything works out fine for you."

But the night police announced the arrest of Carnes on March 28, Glaze told reporters, "I hate to say, 'I told you so,' but I did."

Hays said the incident has given the hospice program a "black eye."

"We are getting a lot of words of encouragement and support locally," Hays told the Bay Area Reporter. "We're trying to get this behind us and move on with what needs to be done. How long we can keep that thought up, I don't know."

World Briefs

10% of Poor Brazilian Kids Infected

In Brazil, the country with the highest number of AIDS cases after the United States, there are 69 million children, of whom 37 million live in poverty and 8 million are abandoned. In Sao Paulo, the largest city in South America, 700 of the 8000 children interned in the State Child Welfare Foundation have the HIV virus that causes AIDS. According to *Macho Tips* of Mexico, doctors have proven that 95 percent of the causes of infection come from injection of drugs or sexual relations, both of which often occur at a very early age, even as soon as five years old. The 700 infected children continue living together with the unaffected youngsters in the Foundation, creating an explosive situation for the future, only one facet of the enormous AIDS problem in Brazil.

—John Hubert

Kids Blamed in Australian Bashings

Children as young as 10, hunting in packs, are responsible for half of Sydney's gay-bashings, according to new research reported in the *Sydney Star Observer*. The information was revealed in the findings of the Streetwatch Violence Monitoring Project coordinated by the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby and the Sydney Counselling Service. Sixty-seven bashings occurring between Nov. 1988 and April 1989 were studied. One of the clearest findings was that the younger the bashers, the bigger the packs in which they prowled. According to researcher Gary Cox, teenagers tended to strike in gangs of people between 10 and 15. In six percent of the bashings, the age of the attackers was estimated at between 10 and 15. Forty-three percent of the bashings were carried out by people between 15 and 20 and 40 percent by people between 20 and 25. The study also found that the adage "safety in numbers" did not hold up. Forty-eight percent of those bashed were with friends at the time of the incident.

—Rex Wockner

ILGA Official Dies of AIDS

International Lesbian and Gay Association co-secretariat general Jean-Claude Letist died of AIDS complications Feb. 28 in Cologne, West Germany. He was 44. According to ILGA, Jean-Claude told friends he wished to be remembered for his activism. In addition to 10 years' work with ILGA, Letist was a key member of the Gay Liberation Front in Cologne and one of the founders of Cologne AIDS Help. ILGA said Letist "combined seriousness and dedication to international solidarity with a larger measure of humor," recalling that he gave his acceptance speech as co-secretariat general in 1986 dressed as a bearded Queen Victoria. The group's officers also remembered Letist's advocacy for non-European and women members of the association. He believed it would be to ILGA's detriment to become "Europeanized," and strongly supported autonomous lesbian work within the group. Letist's ashes were buried in his native Belgium on March 12. Donations in his memory may be directed to MBZ-AIDS Hilfe Köln, Account No. 220 022 81, Stadtsparkasse Köln, Bank No. 370-501 98. Condolences to Jean-Claude's family and friends should be sent c/o GLF-Köln, Bismarckstrasse 17, D-5000 Köln 1, West Germany. ILGA was founded in 1978 by 12 gay groups meeting in Coventry, England and now boasts more than 250 members groups in 50 nations.

—Rex Wockner

Turkish Gay Leader to Stand Trial

Turkish gay movement leader Ibrahim Eren, who was jailed in December after staging a news conference in protest of police mistreatment of transvestites, has been released from Bayram-pasa Prison and will stand trial in May, charged with illegal distribution of protest leaflets. Ibrahim also faces previous charges of spreading homosexual information on the "Gay Liberation Page" of *Yesil Baris*, the newspaper of the Turkish Radical Green Party, which Eren heads. In an unexpected move, Amnesty International adopted Eren as a prisoner of conscience following his December arrest and coordinated an international campaign of protest letters, faxes, telexes and telegrams to Turkey's prime minister and minister of justice. Amnesty has shown a reticence in the past to aid gays jailed because of their homosexuality and, according to observers, probably views Eren's case as a free-speech matter. The fax number for both officials is 011-90-42-30-88-96.

AIDS/Bush

(Continued from page 2)

ference on AIDS planned for San Francisco in June.

"We have become an embarrassment in the global community that is dealing with this disease," said McGuire of the human rights fund.

The administration has been granting waivers of the policy to people who enter the United States for conferences and to seek medical attention.

But pressure is building on the White House and Congress to remove HIV infection from a list of contagious diseases that is grounds for barring people entry to the country.

Robert Haas, chairman and chief executive officer of Levi Strauss & Co., told the leadership coalition that Bush's decision to address the group was of "symbolic and historic importance."

But Haas also criticized the president for proposing to eliminate funding for treatment of AIDS among low-income people not eligible for Medicaid.

He said Bush also cut funding for home and community-based care demonstration projects for AIDS patients and said the president's budget for the war on drugs does not adequately support prevention and treatment of AIDS.

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Across The Great Divide

by Michael C. Botkin

In the city of San Francisco, all the reports tell us, about half of the gay men are HIVers. More and more, HIV status has become the Great Divide, the line that divides the gay men's community into unlike halves isolated from each other. Is this true?

While it may be exaggerated, this split is definitely a factor; a quick look at the personals section in any local gay paper will confirm that HIV status appears to be the single most important factor that gay men consider when looking for a partner. But it is also a matter of perspective.

If you focus on the HIV community itself, a different Great Divide emerges, the gap between the First and Second Generations. For the sake of simplicity, let's call the PWAs

diagnosed before the advent of AZT as the first generation, and those labeled afterward as the second generation.

If you were diagnosed before AZT (around 1986), you probably found out about it when you came down with a serious opportunistic infection. The HIV test was only developed in 1985, and many people were reluctant to take it (for mostly excellent reasons) until fairly recently. At that time there were few effective treatments, and an AIDS diagnosis was considered a death sentence—average survival time was 18 months after diagnosis.

The second generation, diagnosed after AZT's advent, are on the average healthier than the first. For one thing, many second generation folk were "diagnosed" by an HIV

test instead of by an infection.

For another, we were promptly given AZT (those of us who could stomach the over-size doses they routinely prescribed in those days), and this tended to slow the progress of the disease. So the second generation started out healthier and have stayed healthier longer.

HIVers and many others are well aware of the gap between the two generations. Many first generation HIVers are disabled by the disease, while most second generation HIVers are not, and can therefore lead "normal" lives. If you need to sleep 16 hours a day and have had four bouts of pneumocystis, HIV dominates your life in a way still foreign to the second generation.

But if we want to slice our community into parts, we can play this game even more. Within the second generation there is yet another divide, that between those in the danger zone of less than 500 T-cells (the level at which the deadly opportunistic infections become likely) and those who, although HIV positive, have yet to join the growing "Alpha Zeta Tau" fraternity of AZT eaters.

In our society, if you are taking a medicine it means you are sick, and for most people starting on AZT means crossing a very significant line from presumptive health to presumptive illness.

Thus, we have a neat progression, from negative, to positive but totally asymptomatic, to mostly healthy but on meds, to First Generation. The closer you are to the healthy end of the spectrum the easier it is to "pass," even in the instance of your medical records.

These distinctions are real and even, to some extent useful—certainly more useful than the official medical designations of AIDS, ARC and what have you. But it is important not to get over-involved in them.

After all, to the Christian Right we are all perverts doomed to die. At least all of these new divisions in the community seem to have drained some of the heat off of the old traditional split between gay men and lesbians.

The First Casualty

The Media is supposed to be a mirror of reality, but when Dr. Daniel Hoth read the *New York Times* report on his proposal for a new type of clinical drug trial (see article, this issue) what he saw was a fun-house mirror distortion of it that he literally could not recognize.

Hoth's proposal was for a new concept in low-tech, community-based treatment testing. By avoiding costly lab tests and complicated designs, drug trials could be implemented quickly and with a minimum of red tape and money. This is something AIDS activists have wanted for ages.

Morgan Fine, of Patient Advocates for Necessary Treatment, has noted for some time that the drug trial system tends to discourage exploration of treatments for opportunistic

AIDS Briefs

Accurate Case Reporting Vital

There are increasing reports about a slowdown in the rise of new AIDS diagnoses. While speculation continues as to all the causes, there is evidence that at least two factors are involved, according to the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights based in San Francisco. First, early treatment with AZT and Pneumocystis prophylaxis is delaying or perhaps preventing the onset of disease. Secondly, under-reporting is likely contributing. This occurs because reporting is not a high priority for many patients and physicians. Complete and confidential reporting is extremely important, AAPHR said. Otherwise, people will erroneously believe that the epidemic is going away. ▼

Volunteers Needed for Drug Study

Researchers at the UCSF-affiliated VA Medical Centers are seeking volunteers for a new study comparing AZT and ddC treatment in patients with AIDS or severe ARC who have been on AZT therapy for at least a year. Participants will receive either low-dose AZT or low-dose ddC, plus monthly aerosolized pentamidine—a drug that helps prevent the pneumocystis pneumonia commonly associated with AIDS. The researchers hope to determine whether low-dose ddC may be safer and more effective than AZT (zidovudine) and may be useful for patients in whom AZT seems less effective over time. Volunteers are needed for an ongoing study comparing ddC and AZT as initial therapy for AIDS or ARC. For more information on either study, call Bill Stanton at 221-4810, ext. 3224. ▼

Early AZT Treatment Urged

Early treatment with the antiviral drug AZT for patients who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus but have not yet developed symptoms, can delay the progression of the disease, a UC San Francisco-directed study has shown. The antiviral drug works to inhibit the replication of human immunodeficiency virus, which attacks the human immune system, specifically T-helper cells that guard the body against infection. The study, published in the April 5 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, began in July 1987. By August 1989 it had become clear that treatment with AZT at the lower dosage of 500 mg a day was delaying progression of HIV disease with patients who had T-helper cell counts below 500. In the three treatment groups, the rates of progression to either AIDS or advanced ARC were 7.6 percent for those on placebo, 3.6 percent for those on the 500 mg dose and 4.3 percent for those taking 1,500 mg a day. ▼

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at last, having mentioned the AIDS thing in a speech. Among the pearls of wisdom that you could read on his lips as he addressed a group of corporate leaders was the following:

"Once a disease strikes, we don't blame those who are suffering. We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't wear a seat belt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking."

The clear implication is that people who have AIDS did, in fact, get it because of their own behavior. After all, most people who have AIDS didn't know how it was transmitted when they got it. While his first sentence attempts to discourage blaming the victim, the next one wallows in victim blame.

This is pretty disgusting all by itself, even if you don't take into account either federal efforts to censor safe-sex education (the moral equivalent of banning the cancer warnings on cigarette packs) or Bush's own refusal to make any commitment to fighting AIDS.

Just to show us how sensitive he is, Bush made a point of mentioning that some of his best friends have AIDS. Next time, George, name names.

Of course, he didn't even mention his refusal to address the upcoming International AIDS conference, or the looming boycott of same.

Rumor has it that if AIDS activists don't shut up about the immigration policy, not only will Bush not attend the conference, he'll send Dan Quayle! ▼

infections—the net effect being that current research is oriented toward expensive anti-virals and vaccines and effectively writes off those with seriously progressed HIV disease.

But what Gina Kolata portrayed in her *New York Times* article was an Orwellian system that would only make sense if it replaced the current method of testing drugs AND derailed proposals for parallel tracks. She did what the mainstream media so often does with its coverage of AIDS: reversed the true meaning of a story.

When I discussed this with the friend who screens the *NYT* for me, he was shocked. "But what she wrote was wrong. Aren't they going to correct it?" Ah, but what is Truth? If the *NYT* prints one thing, and the *Bay Area Reporter* another, which is "true?" In this great country, the Truth is what is printed in the *NYT*. And another question: where did Kolata come up her reactionary vision of "Mass Testing" in the first place, since she didn't get it from Hoth?

It was a delight to see Gina eat her words after she slandered ddI and its expanded access option, and I am waiting to see if she does it again with her sick fantasy about "mass testing." But I'm not holding my breath. It has often been said that the first casualty of war is truth, and without a doubt we are involved in a war against AIDS. This is not to say that Gina is The Enemy, but with friends like these, who needs enemies?

Thanks But No Thanks

George "just say no to broccoli" Bush is getting praise for,

DEATHS

Gloria Anjelica Harrison

Nov. 2, 1927-March 24, 1990

A native San Franciscan, Gloria left us after a short bout with pneumonia while hospitalized at St. Francis, the same hospital where she was born.

Much respected and best known for her accounting and tax work, Gloria had earned several degrees in Law and Music as well. She enjoyed a career as a concert pianist before entering the field of tax accounting.

Gloria was a valued member of the San Francisco Tavern Guild for several years, serving as Parliamentarian, where her intelligent approach saved many disputes.

She will be missed by her many, many friends and clients.

Private services were held.

Trinidad Montoya

Trinidad Montoya passed away Friday, March 30.

He left behind his mother, Eloise Sanchez, and two brothers, Daniel and David.

Services were held Monday, April 2 at St. John's Catholic Church.

In lieu of flowers, send donations to the AIDS Foundation. Very loved by all who knew him. Will be deeply missed. Trini, I love you.

John Cleveland Russell

Aug. 8, 1949-March 31, 1990

John Cleveland Russell, born in Wichita, Kansas of Ruth Endsley and Roy Russell Sr. John is survived by his mother and father, a niece and nephew Sloan and David Russell, his aunt of

Denver, Colo., several cousins and his lifemate of nine years, Paul E. Tardiff of San Francisco, in addition to dozens of friends, patients and professional colleagues.

John died peacefully at home March 31 with his lifemate, Paul, at his side. His battle with AIDS spanned nearly three years. John never lost hope—even when everything seemed hopeless. He was a healer, a pilot, a musician and a con-

tributor to the community. He lectured on immunology and AIDS in the Bay Area, donated his time to the Berkeley Gay Men's Health Collective, The Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic and the County Community Consortium.

A music graduate of Santa Clara University, John toured Europe and then went on to join the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of San Jose where he directed *The Mikado*. He later went into business with his lifemate until the onset of his illness in 1987.

My dearest John, in the heartbreak and anguish of your absence, I reflect on the day we met as the most fortunate day of my life. You have been and continue to be the love of my life—always knowing what I needed and never failing to be there for me. There are no words to describe the depth of security and love I felt in your embrace. Our souls are forever entwined—I feel you now as my spirit guide—you have already taught me so much. There will be a time for us to be together again, until then, not a heartbeat will pass without the memory of you.

Memorial services will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 1740 Sloat Blvd., San Francisco on April 7 at 11:00 a.m. Donations will be accepted for NOCIRC, P.O. Box 2512, San Anselmo, CA 94960.

Jose Rodriguez

On March 1 our dear friend Jose passed on from this world into the next.

Born July 27, 1953, in Puerto Rico, Jose moved to San Francisco in 1977 from Connecticut where he is survived by his parents and six sisters and brothers.

Jose was a very active member of the Rainbow Deaf Society and served for a short time on the Deaf Community AIDS Project.

Jose will be remembered for his ability to make many friends especially with many of the bartenders in San Francisco.

His friendliness and humor will be greatly missed by all his deaf and hearing friends.

Donations in his name can be made to Deaf C.A.P., P.O. Box 1606, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Dennis McCool

April 25, 1956-April 1, 1990

Dennis' journey here ended as a new door opened for him and he peacefully crossed the threshold. His positive and healthy attitude, mixed with just the right dash of stubbornness, helped him fight strongly against tremendous obstacles presented him by AIDS.

Born and raised in Burlington, Dennis moved to Los Angeles in the mid-'80s, returning to San Francisco just in time to meet his life-mate Paul Underwood.

The relationship that Dennis and Paul shared was of the intensity, depth and magnitude unequalled in their lives. On August 5, 1989, they celebrated their happiness through symbolic unification in a holy union performed at MCC in the Castro.

At the time of his death, Dennis was in the arms of his lover, Paul, and surrounded with the love of his family. Numerous close friends provided loving and generous support for Dennis and Paul throughout their 17-month emotional, mental and physical challenge.

A celebration of life is planned for late April. Call 285-2426 for information.

Dennis, your beautiful smile, heart and soul will always be remembered.

You are a part of me forever.

Thomas M. Grace

Aug. 27, 1952-March 27, 1990

Tom Grace was born in Texas and graduated from Rice University in Houston. At the University of Chicago he did graduate work in English—writing his doctoral dissertation on values and form in modern tragedy—and then he earned an MBA in finance and marketing. In Chaucer class in January 1975, Tom sat next to Peter Clark, with whom he had lunch and spent the rest of his life.

Tom and Peter moved to San Francisco in 1984 and bought a Victorian cottage in Eureka Valley. A vice president at Wells Fargo Bank, Tom managed systems development in the Credit Card Division and then became head of Customer Information Services.

Here are some of the things Tom loved. Zipping up the coast in his car with a picnic in the trunk and a recording by Ella Fitzgerald on the tape deck. Standing on Twin Peaks watching the fog roll through the Golden Gate. Taking his parents, Rose and Gene, to a newly-discovered restaurant. Watching *I Love Lucy* or *Fred Astaire*. Eating blueberry muffins and drinking coffee with Peter and Blueberry the parakeet while making plans for another day of adventure in San Francisco. Camping on the coast of Maine. Taking photographs. Birding—especially when Peter's mother Ellie was along. Hiking the hills of San Francisco and taking friends to his favorite places—Vulcan Stairway, Kate Hill, Lands End, Strybing Arboretum. Attending an opera by Richard Strauss, or listening to a song by Cole Porter or Jerome Kern. Visiting friends in Carmel and drifting down the coast. Sprawling in the sun all day long on Black Sand

Beach. Settling down under the ginkgo tree in the back yard with a novel by Anthony Trollope, hummingbirds flitting among the blue hibiscus and Noel the cat dozing under the euryops.

Tom's final months were made as pleasant as they could have been by the devotion of his friends, by visits from his family from Texas and Delaware, and by the gentle care provided by the staff at Davies Medical Center.

On Saturday, April 7, at 10 a.m., Tom's friends will gather in the garden at 312 Diamond to remember the happiness and sweetness he brought to them. All are welcome to attend. Donations in Tom's memory can be sent to Shanti Project, 525 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

Ivory Wesley Jr.

April 10, 1951-March 23, 1990

Ivory Wesley, Jr., popular San Francisco hairstylist and musician, died last Friday at his San Francisco home from complications related to AIDS. He was 39 years old.

Ivory, which was also his corporate signature name, was the premiere hair stylist and owner of Ivory Hair Salon in San Francisco, which he sold last year after operating it for over a decade in the city.

Known for his unique sense of style, Ivory was also the principal theatrical hair stylist for many Broadway musicals staged in San Francisco, including *Cats*, *Ain't Misbehaving*, and *Dream Girls*. He also was a stylist and occasional fashion model for several Union Square clothing stores.

In addition to his career in cosmetology, Ivory was a talented musician and mastered several instruments, including the tenor saxophone, flute and piano. Although a trained classical pianist, he developed a natural propensity for playing gospel music. During the early 1970s, he was the pianist for several black churches in San Francisco. He also had been a church pianist in his native home Kaufman, Texas, outside of Dallas.

He was a graduate of the West Texas University where he majored in speech therapy.

Ivory, an avid traveler, was a supporter of the arts and was an amateur Erte collector. He also collected antique silver.

He is survived by his parents, Ivory Wesley Sr. and Thelma Wesley; a brother, Charles Wesley; and sister Stenett Wesley, all of Texas. He will also be missed by a host of supportive friends.

His body was cremated. In lieu of flowers, donations in his name may be made to an AIDS charity of choice. A celebration of Ivory's life will be held Sunday, April 22, 3-5 p.m. at Regina's Restaurant at Geary and Taylor. For additional information, please call 474-3554.

Richard Yescott

Sept. 19, 1943-March 24, 1990

Richard died unexpectedly at Kaiser Emergency, Saturday, March 24. Cause of death was attributed to heart failure.

He is survived by his loving mother Josephine Siena and a brother Charles both living in Connecticut where Richard was born.

Richard received his B.A. from the University of Connecticut and continued his studies at the University of Arcadia in Nova Scotia where he was awarded his master's in wild life management.

After three years in the Army he then enrolled at the University of California at Berkeley where he received his second master's degree in Parasitology.

Richard was employed by the state of California, having just received a promotion to chief manager for Region 1 Environment Branch for the state. His expertise in parasitology was well recognized and he was highly respected by his colleagues.

It has been an honor being his friend and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Bradley J. Cooney

March 30, 1954-Feb. 13, 1990

Our dear friend, in the arms of his loving mother and surrounded by his adoring family, finally found peace from a battle with AIDS and Parkinson's disease. He fought with dignity and courage to the end.

We won't tell you of his accomplishments in the fashion and restaurant business. Or his education mostly in the school of hard knocks. Just what a wonderful warm, generous and loving person he was, not a saint nor a sinner, but a good friend and great fun to do things with. He was also multi-talented.

I'm sure all those he touched in Vancouver, Toronto, London, New York and his favorite city, San Francisco, all places he called home, will join with Eddy, Nathan, Ronnie and David, plus Patrick in Portland, to thank his wonderful sister Gloria who took him in his last couple of years and nursed and comforted him!

I hope I inherit some of his wonderful qualities. Love forever, Dick.



Religious Groups

(Continued from page 5)

and openly practiced immorality have suffered as a society and eventually fallen into ruin," Page said.

Dr. Thomas Mammen of the Federation of Indo American Associations said the Task Force should "use common sense power to strengthen the traditional nuclear family."

Nearly 12 percent of the city's 29,000 workers have an unmarried partner, according to a survey conducted by the Task Force. Seven percent of city workers would enroll a non-marital partner in a health plan, if that benefit were of-

fered to them, according to the survey.

"San Francisco contains a broad range of family structures and the economic and social changes of the last 20 years have affected all of them. Moreover, San Francisco must be prepared to meet the challenges of the next century. Thus, city policies must keep in step with societal changes," Achtenberg said in announcing the hearings.

Speakers testifying in support of the recommendations, included representatives from the Adult Day Health Care Network, the Newcomer's Center, a refugee and immigrant service center in Chinatown, and others.

The Task Force will issue its final recommendations within a month.

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Conference

(Continued from page 1)

be offered an opportunity to speak at one of the sessions."

"There is nothing we can do if a person wants to call for a riot," Wazhter said. "There are certainly things we can do if people choose to disrupt sessions of the conference and get in the way of dissemination of information to our participants."

"I think the majority of people coming to this conference are truly interested in learning from each other and in moving forward in the fight against AIDS. We have worked exceptionally hard to put together a program that meets the needs of all the different groups who have a part in the conference. Kramer represents one of those groups which we feel has an important role to play in the conference."

Wazhter acknowledged they are expecting and anticipating protests at the conference.

"There is nothing we can do about what happens on the streets of San Francisco," he continued.

"We are certainly working with all the authorities in San Francisco so that all those who want to protest outside the conference space have an opportunity to do so and we are working with them to make sure they can do that in a way that is productive for all interested groups."

"The call for a riot and the ever growing boycott of the conference has almost overshadowed the conference itself."

Wazhter said, "We have put together a program that materially moves forward the global fight against AIDS. We will do everything in our power to make sure the conference is a productive place where people can share information and learn from each other. My hope is those looking for violent behavior on the conference site look at the program and realize that will get in the way of the dissemination of information."

Conference organizers hope to release a complete schedule next week. They have acknowledged they are still unable to confirm a keynote speaker. This will be the first International AIDS Con-

ference in three years where the head of the host country has not participated.

To date, the conference has received more than 5,000 registrations. This, according to conference organizers, is at about the same pace as the Montreal conference. The effect of the boycott is the large number of non-Americans, particularly European, who have not yet registered. Only one-third of the registrants are from outside the United States.

The boycott reaches around the world. More than 50 organizations and countries are either protesting or urging a boycott. Included are the governments of France and Italy. The organizations include the International Red Cross, the New Zealand AIDS Foundation, the International AIDS Society, the Canadian Hemophilia Society, British Medical Association and the Global Programme on AIDS of the World Health Organization. Locally, the NAMES Project and the Shanti Project said they would boycott the conference.

Wazhter claims the boycott has had little effect on the planning of the program. The conference has scheduled about 60 speakers.

"We have had three who said they would not come because of the boycott. They represent community based organizations," he said.

"One is Noerine Kaleeba, head of Taso in Uganda. Herbert Daniel, leader of a large community based organization in Brazil and Melinda Mason, president of National Association of People with AIDS."

The boycott is taking place because of travel restrictions directed against people with AIDS who attempt to enter the United States. It had been hoped that President Bush would address the issue in his AIDS policy speech last week.

The next move may come with the introduction of legislation in Congress to overturn what is known as the Helms amendment, which adds HIV infection to the list of "dangerous contagious diseases," preventing infected foreigners from entering the United States.

According to Steve Morin, it will be co-sponsored by U.S. Reps. Nancy Pelosi and Henry Waxman. ▼

Black AIDS Group Calls For Health Department Probe

by Dennis Conkin

The Black Coalition on AIDS has requested the city's Human Rights Commission investigate the San Francisco Health Commission and the Department of Public Health, alleging that African Americans with HIV disease in San Francisco have been discriminated against by Commissioner Naomi Gray and Dr. David Werdegart, director of the Department of Public Health.

According to Brandy Moore, BCOA chair, Gray recently held up the approval of a budget appropriation for a \$25,000 van that would be used to provide transportation service to people with AIDS, including people of color.

The approval of the van, a contract modification of the Shanti Project's contract for services with the Health Department, was held over for approval from the meeting of the March 6 Health Commission until the March 29 meeting.

Gray told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the contract was approved, but that it was held up because he wanted more information about the use of the van by Shanti. Gray said that she had received complaints that people in the Tenderloin with AIDS were not receiving adequate transportation services and wanted to find out whether that was true before she approved the funds.

According to Holly Smith of the Shanti Project, following the continuation of the item, Gray did call Shanti and speak to Danny Castello, the agency's Practical Support Services director.

According to Holly Smith, a Shanti spokesperson, Gray asked Castello a question about the agency's outreach and services in the Tenderloin and was totally satisfied.



Brandy Moore

Moore also charged that the Health Department received an important report concerning AIDS education needs in the African American community and ignored it.

'Black people are dying and what is Commissioner Gray going to do about it?'

"That study, 'Knowledge, Attitude, Behaviors and Beliefs Survey Regarding HIV Disease In San Francisco's Black Communities,' would have helped develop non-existent programs and help provide services for African Americans that have been overlooked," Moore charged.

Moore criticized Gray for delaying hearings about the report. Gray told the *Bay Area Reporter* that she hadn't been informed of the report and wanted to read it before public

hearings were held.

Although Gray declined to comment at length about the matter, she expressed concern that Moore might be conducting a vendetta against her because she supported Noah Griffin for the chair of the Black Leadership Forum.

Moore denied Gray's claim and said that the issue wasn't the Black Leadership Forum, but rather, Commissioner Gray's homophobia and the Department's negligence.

"Black people are dying and what is Commissioner Naomi Gray going to do about it?" he said.

According to Human Rights Commission AIDS and sexual



Dr. David Werdegart

orientation discrimination specialist Norm Nickens, the Commission has not formally accepted the request to investigate the allegations of discrimination and is seeking the advice of the city attorney about the propriety of one city commission investigating another.

Nickens expects a ruling shortly. ▼

Halston Memorialized

Associated Press

The man who designed clothing for Liza Minnelli, Jacqueline Kennedy and other glamorous women was remembered for his style and self-confidence by mourners who gathered for a memorial service in San Francisco.

Halston, the fashion designer who once ruled high fashion with his simple, sophisticated designs, was remembered by about 125 friends and family members Friday, five days after his death from AIDS-related cancer.

Robert Frowick recalled his brother's strong sense of identity and unique talent in fashion.

"He was always looking for beauty in his surroundings," Frowick said. ▼

Minnelli and model Berry Berenson were the best known of the mourners, who filed into the ornate Calvary Presbyterian Church.

White tulips and lilies of the valley blanketed the altar and bouquets of flowers adorned the church's entry. Trumpeters from the San Francisco Opera performed some of the music, which ranged from Mozart and Bach to "America the Beautiful" and a composition by Halston's sister-in-law, Ann Frowick.

The service was held two blocks from the hospital where the 57-year-old Halston, whose full name was Roy Halston Frowick, spent his last days. ▼

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Where: St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center. Sponsored by Chaplaincy Services.

St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center

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Ryan

(Continued from page 1)

in from Los Angeles, and singer Michael Jackson had called.

She said John spent five hours with the family and "just raised their spirits tremendously, that someone of his stature would care so much to drop everything."

When Jackson called, a speaker phone was brought to White's bedside in hopes he would somehow hear Jackson's words.

"He told Ryan he loved him and that God is with him," Van Dyke said. "And he said, 'Hang in there, buddy, and get better.'"

Mary Maxwell, a spokesman for the hospital, said the flood of calls "has been bedlam. We're getting calls from every small town in the United States. It hasn't let up. Callers want Mrs. White to know she has their support and prayers."

President Bush, who was in Indianapolis for a political fund-raising event, had hoped to stop at the hospital to visit the family, but was not able to work it into his schedule. He did plant a tree in White's honor during a ceremony at a

downtown park.

"Ryan has helped us understand the truth about AIDS, and he's shown all of us the strength, bravery of the human heart," Bush said.

White, a hemophiliac who contracted AIDS from contaminated blood products, put a youthful face on the AIDS plight. He increased awareness of the disease and helped reinforce the message that AIDS cannot be spread through casual contact. His struggle was the subject of a *People* magazine cover story and a TV movie.

"Because of the lack of education on AIDS discrimination, fear, panic and lies surrounded me," White told a teachers convention in 1988.

"I was labeled a troublemaker, my mom an unfit mother, and I was not welcome anywhere.... Even at church, people would not shake my hand," he said.

He urged the teachers to "help me beat the odds and together let's educate and save the children of the world.... By proper education, AIDS can be a disease, not a dirty word."

Five years ago, White, who was diagnosed as having AIDS at 13, was barred from school near Kokomo by officials who

feared AIDS could be transmitted to other students.

Even after a judge affirmed White's right to attend school, he and his family felt ostracized and moved about 20 miles away in Cicero, where they were welcomed by the community.

White's battle with AIDS sent him to Washington to testify before Congress and to California for star-studded fund-raisers. He gained the support of Jackson, John and other entertainers.

Last week Ryan appeared with former President and Nancy Reagan at a pre-Oscar party in Los Angeles for sick and disadvantaged youth sponsored by Athletes and Entertainers for Kids. The organization has established the Ryan White National Education Program for Youth, an AIDS education forum.

"Ryan is a very courageous young man who has a special place in our hearts," the Reagans said in a statement Monday.

White has symbolized not just the tragedy of AIDS, but also the ignorance of society toward the disease, said Cleve Jones, founder of the NAMES Project. The group has sponsored the creation of a nationwide AIDS memorial quilt.

"If this is the end for him, I hope the people of this country derive some lesson from the obstacles he faced and the determination that he and his family showed to overcome those obstacles, that he had to defeat more than an illness," Jones said in a telephone interview from San Francisco. "I think that's something this country should be ashamed of."

Health Calendar

FRIDAY

Shanti Practical Support Volunteer Training Apr. 6-8: 60 volunteers needed to help with daily living needs of PWAs. Call Mike or Ali, 777-2273.

HIV+ Potluck: 7:30 p.m. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Young Lesbian Rap Group: For those 23 and under. Meets Fridays, 7-9 p.m., ending April 6. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Young Gay Men's Rap Group: For those 23 and under. Meets Fridays, 7-9 p.m. This is a non-therapy rap group conceived and conducted by gay & bisexual young men. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Living Well With AIDS/ARC: Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

SATURDAY

SF Sex Information 1990 Spring Workshop & Volunteer Training Apr. 7: A 50-hour multi-media course in human sexuality and communication skills for professionals and phone volunteers. Call 621-7300, M-F, 3-9 p.m.

Women's Clinic: Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STD, bladder & pregnancy testing. Health care by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.

SUNDAY

Afternoon Tea: Come play games & socialize, 2-7 p.m. For PWA/PWARC/PWHIVs. Free. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

Men's Clinic: Free & confidential VD testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, venereal warts, etc. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. 6-8 p.m. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 644-0425.

MONDAY

AIDS, Medicine & Miracles 3rd Annual Conference: May 3-6, Clarion Harvest House, Boulder, Colorado. Speakers include: George Melton, Adan Ross, MD, Robert Gass, EdD, Martin Delaney. Call (303) 447-8777.

Bay Area Youth Positives (BAY+): A support group for adolescents and young adults dealing with HIV, AIDS and ARC. Mondays at 6:30 p.m. ACCEPT, 1287 11th Ave., SF. Call Julie, 861-2500, or Scott, 821-8764.

AIDS Family Project: Ongoing group for teenagers (ages 14-18) who have HIV+ family members. Stacey Shuster, Phd, 626-7000.

Support Group for Older Gay Men (60+): Mondays, 7-9 p.m. 1853 Market St., SF. GLOE, 626-7000.

HIV+ Support Groups—Hayward & Tri-Valley Areas: A variety of emotional support groups for PWAs, HIV+s, friends, families & lovers. A safe place to share your feelings. Meets every Monday and Wednesday. 887-0566.

TUESDAY

Rhythm and Ritual of Primal Traditions: Talk by Bernard Branner at 7 p.m. Amron Metaphysical Center, 2254 Van Ness, SF. 775-0227.

Free Drop-In Group for Gay Men with Drug/Alcohol Problems: Every Tuesday, 7-8:30 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.

Lesbian Psychotherapy Group: 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Call 626-7000 for appointment.

Asian Gay Men's Support Group: 6:30-8 p.m. The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 548-8283.

WEDNESDAY

AIDS Grief Support Groups: Free and open to the public. Wednesdays, thru May 30, 7-9 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglass, SF. Also, Wednesdays, thru May 23, 7-9 p.m. Hospice By The Bay, 1550 Sutter, 3rd floor, SF. Adv. registration required, 673-2020.

Weight Management Program: Comprehensive program of exercise, nutrition and personal obstacles, Apr. 11—June 13. UCSF Rec. Dept., Millberry Union Fitness Center, 500 Parnassus, SF. Claudia, 476-6199, or Karen, 476-1115.

AA Mean Streets Group: Wednesdays, 8 p.m., at the Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom near 7th St., SF.

Educational Series for People Recently Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis: A six week program on Wednesdays, Apr. 4—May 9, from 7-9 p.m. Herrick Hospital, CC Conference Room, Berkeley. To register call 268-0572 or 1-800-FIGHT MS.

Finding Love All Minds United (FLAME): Healing meditation at 6:30 p.m.; fellowship at 7:30 p.m. 1838 15th St./Ramona, SF. 566-4122.

AIDS/HIV Drop-In Group for Asians/Pacific Islanders: Weekly, 6-7:30 p.m., for information, support and referral. Conducted in English, Cantonese and Mandarin. Free. Asian AIDS Project, 300 4th St., Suite 401, SF.

Crack Rap: Weekly, 9-10 a.m., with peer counselor Lawrence Miller. Crack detox also available. Tenderloin Self-Help Center, 191 Golden Gate Ave., SF. 554-0518.

Care Partners Support Group: For those caring for people with AIDS or other life threatening illnesses. 7:30-9 p.m. MCC Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 861-4434.

THURSDAY

Insurance/Employee Benefits Clinic: 6:15, 7 & 7:45 p.m. every Thursday. Free 45 min. private session with an attorney on benefits, COBRA and insurance problems. AIDS Legal Referral Panel, 25 Hickory/Van Ness, SF. 864-8186.

ARC Drop-in Group for PWAs: Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. Support, info, stress. Health Center 1, 3850 17th St./Noe, Rm. 201, SF. 626-7000.

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Bay Area Reporter Greater Bay News

Concord Gay Activists Want TVC Censured

by Keith Clark

Gay rights activists in Concord have formally asked the newly impaneled Concord Human Relations Commission to censure the Traditional Values Coalition for "inciteful rhetoric."

They also have requested that the HRC begin a regular monitoring program of the fundamentalist, anti-gay organization, and that all Concord city employees — including the City Council — be given special training about lesbian/gay issues.

At the April 2 meeting of the commission, the first since three incumbents were rejected by City Council in favor of four new commissioners, activists from a wide array of East Bay rights groups submitted a formal request that the HRC condemn the TVC and its leaders for "inciteful rhetoric," particularly the group's spokesman, Mark Zapolik.

Zapolik was quoted in a February news report as saying, "If we try to settle our differences in the street, blood is gonna flow!"

In addition, the request to HRC included several year's of news reports and TVC documents citing TVC anti-gay statements the activists con-

sider inflammatory.

Ken Stanley of the Gay and Lesbian Public Awareness Committee and himself a member of the Contra Costa Human Rights Commission, told the Concord HRC, "Mr. Zapolik has a right to say whatever he wants to say as a spokesperson for TVC; that is his First Amendment right."

"And we, and especially this commission, must do everything that we can to defend his right to say whatever he wishes to."

But this commission has to take a stand in this community against rhetoric that is inciteful and rhetoric that can harm people.

"The Rev. Larry Whitsell of the Mount Diablo Metropolitan Community Church and one of the three HRC incumbents replaced by the City Council in mid-March, also addressed the HRC meeting on its general problems of resolving the on-going conflict between gay rights activists and fundamentalist groups in the city."

Whitsell told the commission, "I realize you are new to this but that I hope you will deal with the tough issues and not just sweep them under the carpet."

"The job of the HRC is to deal with civil rights and to deal with some of the toughest issues."

"And you have in front of you probably the most difficult task of any commission or board," he said. "You're not with allocations of money or city planning. You're dealing with people's emotions and things that of gut-level importance to people."

The GALPAC complaint had been reviewed in advance by HRC staff members for a preliminary report before being presented to the commission.

The staff report pointed out that the HRC had already begun "sensitivity training" around lesbian/gay issues and that that program was an on-going effort by the HRC.

The staff report, without taking any position on the proposals to monitor meetings and demonstrations, simply argued that the HRC did not have enough staff time for such activities.

However, the report did suggest that the HRC might contact San Francisco's Community United Against Violence for its input on how such monitoring, particularly of



Visiting Royalty

The new emperor and empress of San Jose at the Imperial Investiture in San Francisco.

(Photo: Rink)

public protests, might be accomplished.

The fourth and most controversial request — that the HRC condemn TVC rhetoric considered inciteful — was summarily dismissed as "not appropriate to deal with."

Former HRC commissioner Whitsell told the *Bay Area Reporter* later, however, "I think it is appropriate for them, if they find reason, to condemn the language. You've got to be

cautious about saying a person doesn't have the right to say what they want to say because they do."

"But if they investigate and they find these allegations to be true, I don't see any reason why they can't condemn hate language and specific incidents of it. I found that recommendation just a little off the wall. The HRC has taken such a stand before, so

(Continued on next page)

Teen Guilty in Killing Of East Bay Gay Banker

by Keith Clark

A Contra Costa County Superior Court jury in Martinez found Robert Staedel, 19, guilty of first-degree murder with special circumstances in the 1988 execution-style slaying of a gay East Bay banker.

The March 29 verdict leaves the youth facing a possible death penalty.

The jury, after four days of deliberation, found Staedel guilty of robbery, kidnapping and murder with the special circumstances of robbery, kidnapping and kidnapping for the purpose of robbery.

The crime of first-degree murder with special circumstances carries with it a penalty of either life in prison without the possibility of parole or the death sentence.

The jury will reconvene on May 1 to decide Staedel's fate.

Staedel showed no emotion as the verdict was read and smiled and blew a kiss at family members as he was being led from the courtroom following the brief proceeding.

Staedel was charged along with Charles Carter, 21, of the kidnapping-murder of Kenneth Erickson after the two youths met him at an adult bookstore that police called a "well-known place of assigna-

tion" for gay sexual encounters.

Erickson's nude body was found Sept. 13, 1988, near a roadside in Tilden Park in the East Bay.

Police said the three men had met at the Pleasant Hill Adult Bookstore on the evening of Sept. 11, an argument had broken out, Erickson was forced at gunpoint into the trunk of his car and taken to the park.

Police said Carter then shot Erickson twice through the head with a .22-caliber pistol and dumped his body down an embankment.

Police said Staedel then climbed down to the body and fired seven more shots into Erickson's head.

During the trial, however, Staedel contradicted his earlier statement given to police and testified that he alone had shot Erickson.

Questioned by his attorney, Lincoln Mintz, during the trial as to why he had shot the man, Staedel said, "I guess I panicked."

Mintz had asked the jury to find his client guilty only of second-degree murder, which carries a much less severe penalty.

At the time Staedel and Carter were arrested in 1988, both suspects told police they were themselves gay although the two young men are apparently unknown to members of the gay community in the East Bay and in testimony in court Staedel said he is heterosexual.

Neither has a criminal record according to police.

Erickson was a loan officer at Old Stone Bank in Pleasant Hill at the time of his death.

He was divorced and the father of two sons.

He had been active in the Contra Costa AIDS Task Force and other community organizations.

Carter, the other accused man, will be tried separately after Staedel is sentenced.

Both men pleaded innocent to the charges although police say they both admitted the killing.

The two youths are also suspected in the murder of Luis Chaves Baro in nearby Hayward five days before Erickson's death.

Baro was discovered tied up and shot to death shortly after Erickson's body was found.

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A Marching Nose?

A count is a European nobleman equivalent to an English earl. (Both an earl's wife and a count's wife are known as a countess—much better than earless, which looks too similar to earless!)

The word *count* comes from the Latin meaning companion. The original counts were the associates or companions or buddies of the king.

The domain of a count became known as a county, a word that eventually moved into England, even though England had earls, a word that comes from Icelandic meaning chieftan.

At first, the English counties were shires (Anglo-Saxon meaning division) and that gave us the word sheriff, a division ruler. However, the English finally favored (favoured?) county over shire and that's why today we live in a county instead of a shire.

All this leads to the fact that at the last parade meeting, held at the Driftwood, the 30-plus who turned out for the event decided to call the group Alameda County Parade Contingent, and thus will be the registered name in this year's Freedom Day Parade in June.

As of right now, the thinking/planning is that there will be one overall float for Alameda County and the lead banner will be so lettered. There will be positions for individual city's flag bearers and also spots for representation of specific groups, i.e., E.B.A.F., I.S.E., the Center, etc.

Nothing is being done about pompoms at this time because word is being awaited about the return of the Hayward Rah Raws who may want to enter.

Of course, the registration and entry fees, plus the cost of the float itself require lots of dough, bread, moolah, jack, shekels, cabbage, lettuce, simoleons, bucks, not to mention good old fashioned dollars! And the very first fundraiser will be held at the Driftwood on Saturday, April 14 from 4 to 9 p.m. This event will consist of a Polish Auction and a Baked-Goods Auction.

For the uninitiated, or if you have just "plumb forgot" a Polish Auction goes something like this: an item is put up for sale. Person "A" opens the bidding for a dollar and pays that dollar then and there. Person "B" ups the ante to \$2, but pays only one buck to bring the original bid up to \$2, and so on and so on, until a previously set time limit has been reached. The last bidder to be recognized at the time limit, pays only a buck for the item, even though many single dollars have been collected in the interim.

I was told that the Easter Bunny will be there for those who desire a picture taken with him/her—for only \$1 a snapshot.

Items are needed for the Polish Auction and for the Baked Goods Auction. If you want to donate either salable items or salivary edibles contact either LeRoy (Lena Mae) at 763-4964 or David (Tootsil) 769-8315. I was told there can

be arrangements made for pick up and delivery.

Flivver Fever (A "Tin Lizzie" Nose?)

There are still plenty of tickets left, but time is running out for that "raffle of raffles" a mint condition 1974 Datsun 260Z. The tickets are available at most bars in Alameda County and are only a dollar each.

Yours truly—Lord willing, the creek don't rise and I don't get caught cheating at first base—will pull the winning ticket after the Softball Game between Val's Gals and Moulton's Machos, Sunday, May 20. The ball game will be at Berkhalter Park and the barbecue/raffle drawing will be in the private parking lot next to Town & Country.

Olla Podrida (A Medley Nose)

From DJ's Announcement Board: "Full Moon Party" Monday April 9, 4 to 10 p.m., Happy Hour prices; Dart Tournament, Saturday, April 28, 2 p.m.; Sunday movies at 5 p.m., David Lincoln Brooks at the keyboard Fridays & Saturdays; Bob Sandner at the keyboard Tuesdays; Wednesdays, all non-alcoholic drinks are only \$1.25.

Don't forget the "Kelly Moore Camp Awards," Saturday, April 7, 9 p.m., Driftwood Lounge. Imperial Crown Princess Cathy Heart will be the host. Nominations and voting should have been completed by you at your favorite pub by now. (No, I don't know who Kelly Moore is, but I'm sure that I'll be informed in no uncertain terms!)

The ISE tradition continues Sunday, April 8 at Big Mama's. It's the Annual Easter Basket/Bonnet Contest. Baskets are voted for by tickets purchased (3/\$1) with cash prizes for the top three. Baskets are donated to AIDS patients at Fairmont Hospital. Bonnets will be auctioned and prizes awarded. Emperor and Empress X Tim and Fina will be your host and hostess.

It's only four more Saturdays until the re-grouped Revolutes present "From the Chapel to the Gutter," a benefit for The Center and Project Inform. There are a few tickets left for this extravaganza to be held Saturday, April 28 at Bjornson Hall in Oakland. The \$12 advance/\$15 door includes the show, snacks and dancing. There will be special performances by Stephani, Morgan and Fuji. Mistress of Ceremonies will be the Fabulous Flame and it is co-hosted by Ginger and Suzie Wong. Doors open at 7 p.m. with a promised starting at 7:30 sharp, right Filicia? As of this writing, a total of \$1,194 has been collected for the two charities and rehearsals are going well. (Don't forget to rehearse the starting time, girls! Will the Misses F., G., and S.W. be able to get all the way from S.F. in time?)

If life is merely a joke, as has been said, the question still remains: For whose amusement? I can definitely smile at that as I continue the countdown. Love, Nez

Concord

(Continued from previous page)
there's no reason they can't do this."

All four GALPAC requests were referred to the complaints procedures committee for study, and the HRC next meets on May 7 at which time it may have an official response ready to the GALPAC complaint.

Whitell said his overriding concern was how the new HRC deals with the conflict rather than what it does about the specific GALPAC requests.

"I think the issue is where will they put, how are they going to deal with this conflict," he said. "It is the major conflict that goes on in this city right now."

Whether the two sides can sit down together even to discuss the years-long battle in Concord is also open to question however.

Asked by the commission if the two sides could agree to sit down and talk about their differences, activists at the hearing all agreed they could.

But Zapolik told the commissioners that although he personally would agree to discussions, he could not say whether the TVC itself would.

Zapolik said he would put the issue before his group's board for a response.

Lesbian, Gallery Reach Agreement

by Dennis Conkin

A mediated settlement has been reached in a December dispute between an East Bay lesbian artist and the Richmond Arts Center.

The settlement, mediated by a retired federal court judge from an arbitration service, requires the Richmond Arts Center to develop a policy requiring formal written notice artists before the agency posts "adult content" notices urging parental discretion about their exhibits. Artists then have the opportunity to decide whether they want to withdraw from the exhibit.

Kimberly Disney, a video artist, had entered an interactive video in a December 1989 exhibit at the RAC, only to discover that the curator of the exhibition had posted a notice urging parental discretion regarding the "adult content" of her video directly underneath Disney's artist statement.

According to Disney, she had discussed the exhibition at least five times with the RAC, but no one notified her that they had posted such a warning sign and did not give her

the opportunity to withdraw the work from exhibition.

"I could have had a choice, but they gave me no choice," Disney told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The adult notice was a euphemism for obscene. The piece dealt with homophobia and they perpetuated it."

During the mediation the arbitrator viewed the video and did not find the tape offensive, Disney says.

According to Disney, one minute of the 30-minute tape exploring her "coming out" contained out of focus nudity.

"It was a mild form of censorship. They could have been able to decide where the placard was placed or had the opportunity to withdraw," Disney said.

Disney also said that the curator of the show, Zlata Baum, also quashed discussion of the censorship in a forum on the exhibit.

Under the terms of the mediated settlement, the Richmond Arts Center will also pay a minimum settlement to Disney, including her attorney's fees.

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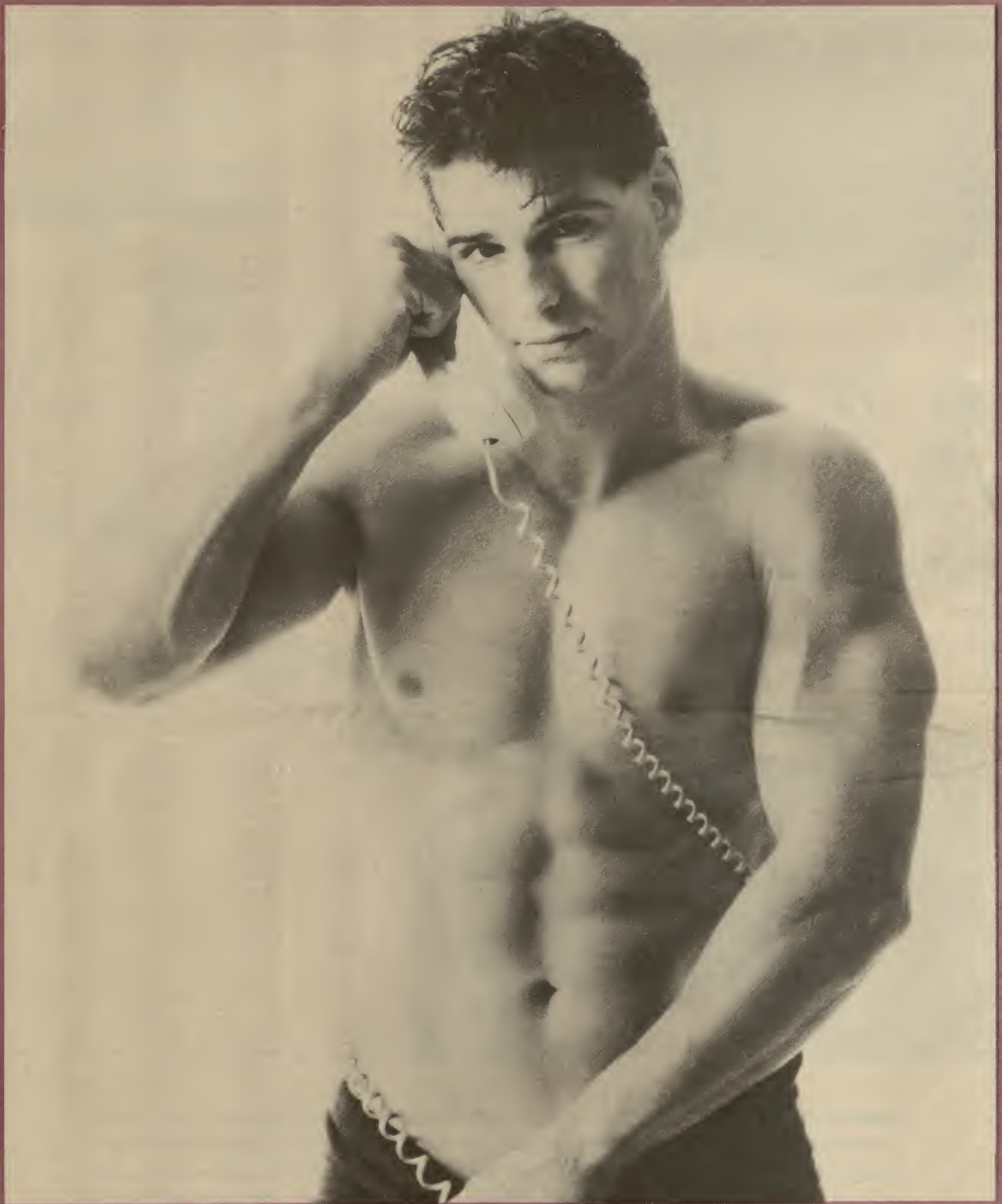
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Bay Area Reporter
Arts & Entertainment

Back With a Vengeance

Newcomers, Old-timers Contribute to
A Dazzling Renaissance of Broadway



Broadway smash: Robert Morse as Capote in *Tru*.

(Photo: Martha Swope)

by Robert Julian

Broadway is *not* dead. It's back—with a vengeance. It only *seemed* to expire a few seasons ago, when there was such a dearth of good musicals they seriously considered cancelling the "Best Musical" category at the Tony Awards.

This year, New York is singing a different tune with film stars like Kathleen Turner and Alec Baldwin trotting their thespian skills across the no-bluff boards of the legitimate stage. They're working with newcomers and old-timers to light up marquees from 42nd

to 49th Street with a dazzling array of musicals, comedies, and dramatic delights.

Everyone knows the real *avant-garde* productions occur Off-Off Broadway in storefronts without permanent seating, but nothing beats Broadway for sheer spectacle and *razza-matazz*. When the Tony Awards air in June (Oh, go on—you survived the Oscars didn't you?) there will be no shortage of material to choose from. Many of the names and faces you'll soon see nominated, will be chosen from the following four pro-

ductions.

Ramada Redux

You've seen the movie on the late late show, now you can catch the musical version of *Grand Hotel*, choreographed and directed by Tommy Tune. This theatrical extravaganza has been produced within an inch of its life by almost as many people as there are on stage. Tony Walton's spectacular sets make the excess less wretched, but it's hard to overlook the absence of a strong script or even one hummable song.

(Continued on page 40)



Above: Maggie Smith's "deliciously broad" Lettice Douffet. Below: David Carroll and Michael Jeter in *Grand Hotel*.

(Top photo: Zoe Dominc; below: Martha Swope)



As the Legend Grows

A Chat with Jerome About His Life and Art

by Steve Abbott

Wherever you go in clubland these days you either see or hear about Jerome Caja—his art, his performances, his life. Some find Jerome's drag anxiety producing if not a bit frightening. Whereas Divine wore extreme eye make-up and outrageous costumes, her pulchritudinous girth cushioned the blow. Her exaggerated eyeliner extended like a road home over the rolling hills of Georgia. Jerome, however, is frail as a ghost and her long, stringy hair falls over her naked shoulders like a whip of the kind anchorites used to flagellate themselves with.

Then there are the stories (we always tell stories of those we love): Jerome's High Heeled Wrestling performance at the Prevention Point Benefit

("They really got rough," one of my friends worried), Jerome's entry into the Empress of San Francisco contest, Jerome's tea bag wind chimes over his kitchen sink. The legend grows for it's our legend, the legend of the disenfranchised. I meet with Jerome for this interview at a tiny cafe half a block from Art Lick Gallery where his latest art show is about to open. He's dressed down today and we share a piece of lemon cake as we talk. Since one of Jerome's paintings is entitled "Coffee, donut, TV (the things life's made of)," I ask Jerome if he watches a lot of TV.

"When I was a child I was only allowed to watch one TV show a week," Jerome says. "Now I mainly watch the Channel 7 news because that's

the only channel that comes in clearly on my set. I like to lounge in front of the TV when I eat. But I watch movies and TV at friends' apartments. TV's the great equalizer in America. At least we all have that in common."

★ ★ ★

What are your favorite movies?

I like everything—Fassbinder, *Killer Clowns from Outer Space*. There's a movie about the Marquis de Sade I can't remember the name of. I love show tunes too, movies with the big dance numbers.

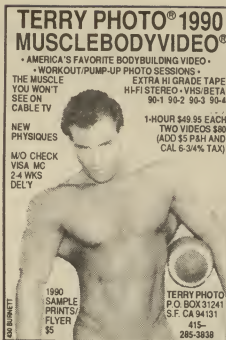
Why are your paintings so small?

What I do artistically is prac-

(Continued on page 36)

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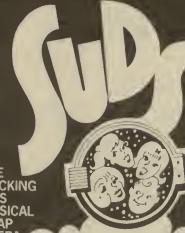
Around Town Last Weekend

Clockwise from top: José Sarria and cast opened at Charpe's; Rainbeau at Electric City benefit at the Strand Theatre; Taking souvenir photos at the Butch/Femme Solrée; Rita Rockett and Al Parker at the Strand; Barbara Wood competing in the "Classist Butch" contest at Butch/Femme; Classic femme Miss Terri judges at Butch/Femme.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)



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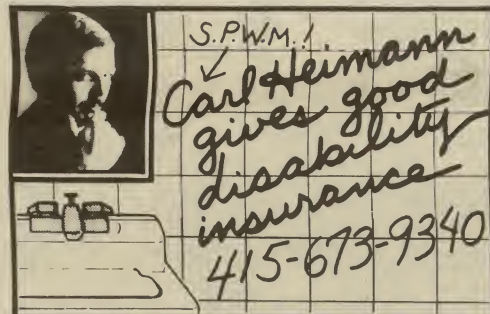
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'Dolores Street' Opens Friday

Lesbian Watching

by Mary Richards

Watching the way lesbian women live is the subject of a new play to world premiere in The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros on Friday, April 6. The four characters in Theresa M. Carilli's *Dolores Street* come together to share an apartment, and to give us a lighthearted look into their lives and loves.

Lonnie (Janis Cosor) sits atop a stool in the opening scene with her spiky hair and hoop earrings and tells the audience "There are two words we all learn in our coming out process—San Francisco. We all want to move to San Francisco, don't we? That's where we can really be 'out'."

"You land in San Francisco,

gay capital of the United States. You are no longer a stranger in your own life. You have finally found the gay amusement park."

Anyone who has moved to this city from somewhere else will be able to relate to the four women on *Dolores Street*, and their home with creaky doors and second-hand furnishings. Most of the action takes place in the kitchen of their flat. The only difference between this play and real life is that hardly anybody you know has a kitchen that large.

Anxiety for Comic

Stand-up comic Karen Williams will debut in her first dramatic role, and she admits



Left to right from rear: *Dolores Street*'s Janis Cosor, Elizabeth Cheap, director Nina Capriola. Seated: Karen Williams and Johanna Schmidt. (Photo: Shari S. Cohen)

to being a bit frightened about it at first.

"I had a lot of anxiety over learning a script and sticking to a script, not winging it," she explains with a laugh. "Also, I've been a solo artist, but I wanted an ensemble experience."

Karen plays the flamboyant Fran, one of the roommates who is always on the move—usually toward a new romance. "I really hate to say it," Karen adds, "but I felt a lot like Fran in my 20s when my hormones were running my life."

Karen got her start in local black clubs and was nominated for Cable Car Awards in 1989 and 1990 as Outstanding Comic of the Year. She travels the college circuit and also brings her own brand of "improv" humor to the gay and lesbian community.

Johanna Schmidt plays Wendy, a young toughie running from life who comes to admit that she really has a heart and needs a home just like everyone else. In her opening monologue Wendy tells us "I just moved here from Los Angeles." She pauses, and decides to admit the truth. "Alright, I really moved here from Nevada, but once I did live in Los

Angeles. I did male impersonations at a strip joint."

Of the four women, Danielle is the hardest to warm up to. She's moody and uptight, and the easiest to laugh at because she takes herself so seriously. Elizabeth Cheap, who plays the role, says, "She's struggling. At times you feel like she's a lost cause, but she snaps herself out of it. Everyone here is in a transition point in their lives, and some are more stuck than others."

Director Nina Capriola saw about 100 women during the casting of *Dolores Street*, but knew instantly that these four were right for their parts. "I love working with all of them," she acknowledges. "Most of the cast are lesbian women and it's been very intriguing to me to just see the workings of that. The whole dynamic between the four of them has been there from the very beginning."

Dolores Street opens on Friday, April 6 and runs until Sunday, May 6 in the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street. For ticket information, phone 861-5079. ▼

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Alonzo King's Lines Dance Company premieres two of his works at the 1990 Bay Area Dance Series. Pictured here, Deborah Rose. For dates/ticket information call 750-3250.

Up Close from a Distance

Writer Bo Huston on "Sensibility," Craft, and "New Narrative"

by Patrick Hoctel

Although he eschews membership in the club, writer Bo Huston often gets mentioned in the same breath with Dennis Cooper, Brad Gooch, Kathy Acker, and SF's own Kevin Killian and Dorothy Allison, those literary lions of the "new narrative" school.

His first book, *Horse*, a collection of short stories, has been called "a string of pearls" by *After Delores* author Sarah Schulman and "a crucial debut" by gay lit's bad boy Dennis Cooper. Critics have reacted positively to the book, zeroing in on the marginal characters, the junkies, murderers and broken movie stars, that Huston sketches with almost painful accuracy.

Huston, 30, who grew up in Ohio and lived in New York City for over a decade, now lives here in San Francisco in Bernal Heights with his lover and their three cats. He writes for the *Bay Times* and has just finished a novel that he hopes goes bigtime.

In person, the author is witty, but self-effacing, slightly remote. He confesses that he doesn't like interviews and, though handsome, doesn't want his picture taken. We agree on substituting a glossy of the young Montgomery Clift instead.

★ ★ ★

The critical response to Horse has emphasized that this is a "dark" book, one that explores the underside of gay life. Do you agree?

I don't really see it that way. It certainly wasn't an intention. A lot of it comes from my experience. I was a drug addict, and I am gay, and I lived in New York City for 10 years. That "dark side"—I write, like most writers, about pain. To me, that qualifies it more than "the dark side of life."

My humor is a bit macabre or black comedy humor. But always the things they say to characterize it [*Horse*] never quite are what I think I was putting into it.

Then for you it's less dark and just more true to your own experience?

Yeah. If anything, if it is dark at all, it's a play between light and dark [pause] that fascinates me.

So often the term "gay sensibility" gets defined around writers like Edmund White, Andrew Holleran and now David Levitt. Your book, to me, definitely reflects a gay sensibility, though it's very different from these authors. Do you think that's true? How do you define gay sensibility?

It's funny, because as I understand what gay sensibility meant, it very often was referring to writers or works that had no overt homosexuality in

them at all. Like, for example, Tennessee Williams. The movie *Rebel Without a Cause* had a gay sensibility. Because now we're talking about people who are out of the closet, and gay sensibility has been around long before Stonewall.

"There are definitely political implications in my stories—but never divorced from the personal."

Does Horse, to you, have a gay sensibility?

Yeah. I'm not much interested in writing about contemporary gay life as a thing in and of itself. I have a lover; we've been together for over two years. I have a lot to say about it, but I don't find myself writing about my relationship with my lover and our house and our cats necessarily, which many people do. That has become a form of fiction that's very solid and people like a great deal because it's reflecting our lives back to us.

I write more about magic or fantasy, and it's got a gay sensibility because that's who I am. It also has a very druggie sensibility because I come from being a junkie. It also has a middle-class sensibility 'cause that's where I come from, too.

When I was reading Horse, there's a certain tone, a voice, that runs through your stories. It's arch and slightly flip, but charming. Steve Abbott said he thought it was very '20s, in the E.F. Benson/Evelyn Waugh mode.

It's definitely not of today. That's true. I'm just thinking this as you said it. When I was in college and I was writing stories, I had this professor who said, "Your writing looks like it's been translated from another language." Like it was originally written in German or something.

There's this inner detachment from it [the writing]. Maybe that's like my little trick or my hook—writing about current things in this sensibility or voice that is also very gay, especially with the two writers you mentioned, and is from a more traditional period of writing.

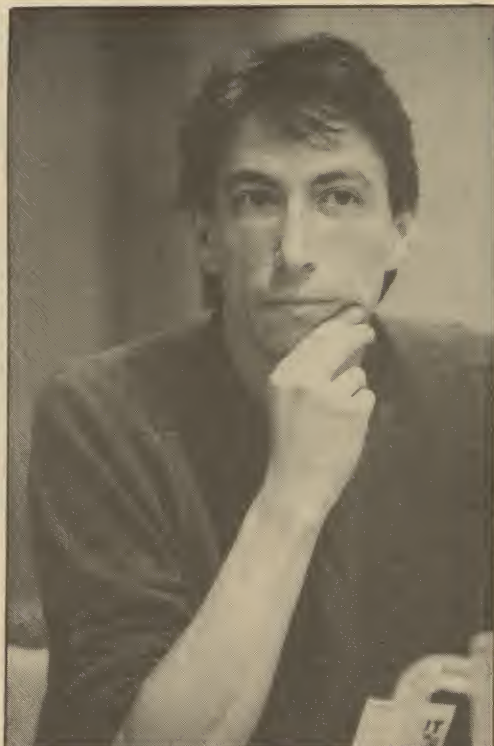
I feel like a very 19th century person in a 20th century world. All the things that I look at—including my own experience with drugs, television, whatever—my observation of it is from a big distance. I'm not really interacting with it the way, say, Kevin [Killian] does,

where he's very immediate like this is his world.

...I have to try hard not to be too precious. In fact, I am sometimes, and I've been helped by people saying, "OK, this is too cute; this is too precious." That kind of arch flipness. Because there's a balance that you want. So that's something I struggled with in writing the novel I just finished. I really try and pare that down and get the voice so it's not this upper middle-class voice talking. Which is the style of the '20s and the '30s, where someone up here [raises hand] is narrating to the rest of us.

The "new narrative" label gets banded about quite a bit these days, with no one seeming to have a real handle on exactly what the term means. Do you consider yourself a member of the new narrative school with people like Dennis Cooper, Brad Gooch, Kevin Killian and Dorothy Allison? What does new narrative mean to you?

I'm still a little confounded about what new narrative means. I feel a strong alliance



Bo "Monty" Huston at last month's Out Write conference.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

with those writers—Dennis, Brad, Kevin—Dorothy the strongest of all in ideological terms. Then personally I believe that it's good for young writers to be all hooked up with each other and talking to each other and exchanging these ideas.

So I feel this alliance, but I question what we all have in common. I don't see a common

thing that would put us all in this one school. As for my work, nothing I do is new—at all. Writers experiment. That's what writers do. They are actively trying to understand life.

You don't see yourself as part of a group that's inventing a new form?

I don't.

(Continued on page 48)

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John Waters' New Film 'Cry-Baby'

Director Held Hostage at Camp Lite

by Mark Finch

I swear, 1990 must be Year of the Y-Fronts or something. Jockey shorts are now popping up promiscuously in movies, at least as frequently as Ellen Barkin or Steve Guttenberg. They seem to be replacing the calendar-page-turning montage as Hollywood's most overused (yet cinematically eloquent) convention. John Waters' *Cry-Baby* is the third movie in as many weeks to foreground this new fashion.

Cry-Baby's use of the garment is different again from *Lord of the Flies* (underpants as mise-en-scene) and *Coupe de Ville* (Patrick Dempsey is his Y-fronts, in the manner that Barbara Hershey is her lips).

In the history of Y-fronts and American Cinema, *Cry-Baby's* contribution is a whole new paragraph. It's bold, showy and technically daring, like the live Jack Lemmon Moscow link-up in this year's Oscarcast.

Jump Street's Johnny Depp is in jail for juve crimes. As he attempts escape through the sewer he loses his trousers. Cramped in a smelly, sporey tunnel with nothing but an exhausted, underpaid camera crew, his Ys inevitably become an index of his psychological state. As the white cotton gets

scrapped, stained and sweaty, so does our teen hero's faith in American justice.

Look-in For Everyone

Everyone gets a look-in, although some of the cameos last for less time than it takes for your date to ask you who they are: Joe Dallesandro, Joey Heatherton, Mink Stole, David Nelson, Troy Donahue, Patricia Hearst (who gets the best line: "Let's all put on a folk hat and learn about a foreign culture").

It's impossible to read the credits for *Cry-Baby* — let alone describe the story — without giggles and gasps. And that's the problem. You'll have more fun talking about *Cry-Baby* than watching it.

The common idea about Waters is that since *Polyester* he's sold out by softening his bad taste style for a bigger market. *Cry-Baby* certainly won't absorb that anxiety. Made by Ron Howard's Imagine Productions, distributed by Universal, toplining two "conventionally goodlooking" stars, it doesn't seem good for fans of marginal humor.

Cry-Baby's sensibility is barely more odd than most sitcoms. The weirdest moments are when Amy Locane collects



Drapes members, from left: Ricki Lake, Johnny Depp, Traci Lords. (Photo: Henry Garfunkel)

and drinks her own tears, and whenever Kim McGuire is onscreen. (Kim makes Drapette Hatchet-Face her own; a creation of misapplied make-up and knock-down-drag-out spunk, she's scarier than Ann Miller or Maureen Stapleton.) The rest is familiar from a dozen '50s teen take-offs.

A Moment of Pleasure

It was here that I wished Waters' new movie was in Odorama, like *Polyester*, and I sent a mental memo to Universal's Marketing Dept. Guys,

that interestingly angled shot as Johnny crawls upwards and out of the drain would make a fabulous set of giveaway picture coasters.

Unhappily, the last looming shot of Johnny's tanned, healthy legs clambering to freedom may also be one of the few moments of true pleasure in a fairly dim, disappointing foot-drag through the dust of genre parody. No surprise: *Cry-Baby* is more like *Airplane* than *Mondo Trasho*.

Depp plays the leader of a

bad gang, the Drapes, in a remix of 1950s delinquent dramas. It's a musical too, but like one of those pre-Beatles British chart samplers (usually a thin excuse for a series of Helen Shapiro numbers). The part-newly written, part-period soundtrack ("Jailbird," "Nosey Joe," "Rubber Biscuit") holds tight reign on the rest of the movie.

Storywise, there's a slight conflict about Amy Locane torn between the bamboo chair world of her Square boyfriend (heavenly Stephen Mailer, Norman's son) and Depp's leather-jacket gang (Drapette Traci Lords instructs Amy, "Our bazooms are our weapons!"). The gang rivalry that's a trademark of most Waters' writing is never really more than teased, and it's all over rather suddenly. (In about 80 minutes, actually.)

Campified America

Last summer, *Spy* magazine wrote about the campification of America, and coined the category Camp Lite. Camp Lite is laughing over Raquel Welch in *One Million Years B.C.*; Real Camp is worrying over Tahnee's next career move.

Cry-Baby is Camp Lite to the nth degree. Waters sits himself down in a decade that's already been exhausted. What more can you do with bobby socks, bullet bras and a retro soundtrack?

Waters is a hostage to the self-conscious camp style and subjects he invented. Camp is now America's most pervasive cultural form. Look at this week's other new releases (*Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Love at Large*). Tongue-in-

(Continued on page 50)

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The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover Bawdy and Black, But is it Gay?

by Mark Finch

For a moment, Peter Greenaway's arty British sex and food fable, *The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover*, reminded me of a Catalina bisexual tape, *Innocence Lost*, which I once watched because someone suggested it would be a good way to get my straight friend Jason into bed. (It didn't work.)

In Greenaway's movie randy gourmets Alan Howard and Helen Mirren make love between courses in the fruit cellar and poultry pantry of a five star French restaurant. In *Innocence Lost* chauffeur Jeff Quinn fucks his employer's wife over watermelon and cherry tomatoes in Safeway (whilst taking it from behind by the boss).

That's the difference between the European and North American tradition of surrealism, I guess.

But this is Peter Greenaway's least prissy picture yet (Greenaway made *The Draughtsman's Contract*, *A Zed and Two Noughts* and *Drowning by Numbers*). *Cook* brings him to baser things than the usual country house croquet lawns or Fenland fog scenes.

This is *Desperate Living*, Stephen King, Benny Hill. Even if it doesn't star Jeff Quinn, *Cook* is one of the most compelling movies in a long time. It's a gory, cruel car-



The Wife: Helen Mirren.

(Photo: Byron Newman/Sigma)

toon on class, consumerism and the challenge of finding a good place to eat out.

Posh Place

The Thief (Luciferesque Michael Gambon) pays nightly visits to his new acquisition, a super-swanky red-decked restaurant. (You know it's a posh place because all the waiters wear Jean-Paul Gaultier suits that look like something out of *Space Maidens*.)

Gambon and his rowdy gang of "small time crooks, pimps, hoods, bullies and beat-up boxers" frighten the regulars as

(Continued on page 50)

THEATRE

'Ma Rose' at Eureka

Daughters of Sorrow

by Noreen C. Barnes

The initial visual image of the Eureka Theatre Company's current production of Cassandra Medley's *Ma Rose* is of a colorful patchwork of material tucked in between tall slats of wood, complemented by quilts tossed on a couch.

Designer Pamela S. Peniston's kaleidoscopic picture has two sides. One is a homey palette for interior settings when lit from the front, the other is that of stark, stained-glass when illuminated from behind by Jim Quinn's starkly effective lighting design.

It is this vision, the double image of family and religious faith, that permeates this particular, yet universal, family play.

Ma Rose is a warm, wise, and ultimately very moving work that exposes the intricacies of life and the contradictions of character in its many textures: comic, painful, familiar, distanced. In it we recognize our own histories, as we, like Rosa (Judith Moreland) all come to terms with our families while attempting to establish our own identities, and free ourselves from inherited pain.

Riveting Throughout

Medley's play is riveting throughout, and in need of only some minor tightening midway through the second act (a dramaturgical eye in need here). *Ma Rose* is actually about many issues, as it focuses on three generations of women in a contemporary black family, and the conflicts, compromise and care between mothers and daughters. The descendants of slaves, they have internalized and perpetuated their oppression in a frightening cycle from which Rosa has tried to escape, while she is still bound to her relatives by duty and an uneasy love.

Vera (Cynthia L. Robinson), as daughter to the seemingly indomitable Ma Rose (Margarette Robinson) and mother to the corporate-climbing Rosa, is both caught in the middle of the other two women and jealous of the special bond that Ma Rose and granddaughter Rosa share. Robinson does an admirable job of exhibiting the frustrations of a daughter who is weak in objections to her mother's actions (a superb series of deflections by Margarette Robinson), then appropriating that same tactic when confronted by her own daughter.

She and Judith Moreland have a marvelous conversation at cross purposes, in which the discovery of an old doll inadvertently reveals a piece of the past, both fight for control, the daughter wishes to speak with her mother "as a friend" and the mother seeks solace in the Psalms. Moreland has a more difficult task as the young pill-popping executive, who cannot function without a "plan" of action, and transforms from professional to prepubescent, then back to her adult self, in a strikingly staged series of memory scenes.

As Ma Rose, Margarette

Robinson embodies the tiny, sage-like matriarchal figure who knows her granddaughter all too well ("You wandered too far from yourself"), fights for the right to die at home, and although she is fading, clings to her faith in her powerful singing, punctuating action as a metaphoric underscore.

Ma Rose's son, Wayman, (Melvin Thompson) is comically ineffectual just as his wife Ethel (Esther Scott) is unconsciously overbearing in her control of conversation. There are moments when the two seem to be a little too broad in their portrayals, but the balance they bring by their energy and genuine humor is well-defined and makes the work complete. Scott, in particular, has a wonderful command of character, and is truly delightful to watch.

Play Began as One-Act

Medley's play began as a



Ma Rose cast from left to right: Cynthia Robinson, Margarette Robinson, Judith Moreland.

(Photo: Katy Raddatz)

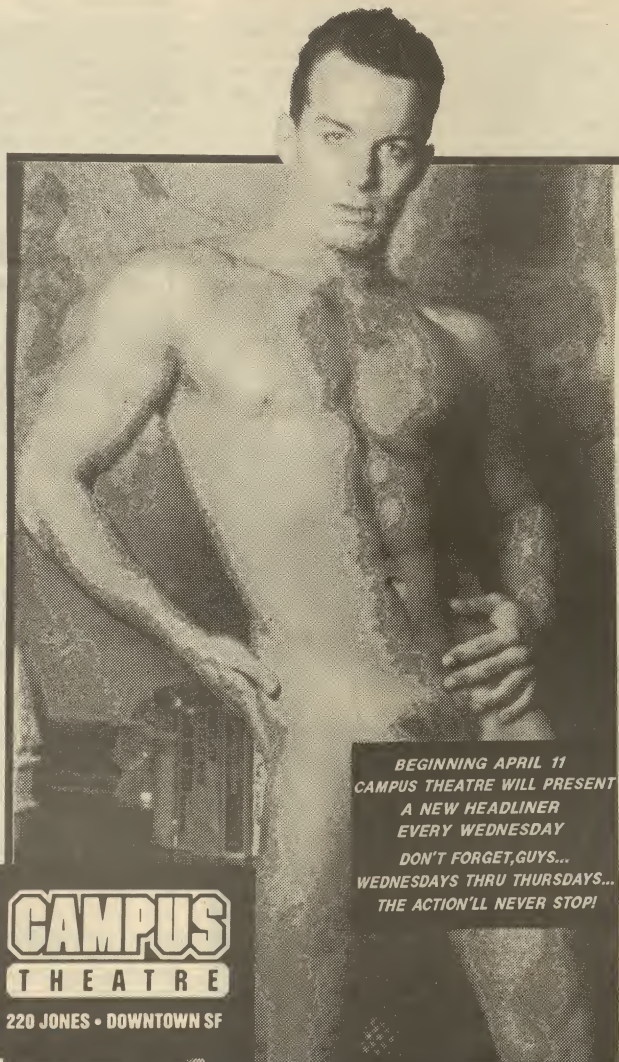
one-act first produced at New York's Ensemble Studio Theatre in 1985, then was commissioned by The Women's Project and Productions for a full-length version in 1988. Medley, in the program for the Eureka's production (the West Coast premiere), notes that Ma

Rose "is being prepared for an Off-Broadway run." She regards the work as her "special personal statement of expiation and forgiveness."

While it is a personal statement, it is certainly one to which we all can relate: the internalization of oppression,

whether it is racism or homophobia, the ways in which we are bound to our families and torn between responsibilities to others and ourselves (the scene where Rosa argues with her relatives as they begin to

(Continued on page 60)



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Jerome poses for his fans outside Art Lick. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

The Legend Grows

(Continued from page 29)

tical in relation to the space I work in. My apartment is very tiny. Not everything in my life is practical, God knows, but that is. I also like to paint with friends and, working small, it's easy to carry my work around. I can work anywhere.

A lot of the elements in your work are appropriated. Do people ever steal your ideas?

It's okay if they do. My ideas are not that original. Dadists used found objects in their art and my friend Adam Klein

had a group named anti-product that used found paintings. I guess I stole a lot of ideas from them. I was just finishing my toilet one day when I heard Louis questioning the maid. She told him to wait, the kid hadn't shut the door. He's gone off with the magazines, she said, but you can do without them for a few minutes, fifteen at the most, he's taken them into his own domain.

Is it okay if I steal different texts and put them into this interview like I just did above?

Oh sure. The relief of no longer being the sole master of one's text. I think the more influences you have, the better. One good thing about school is that you have to listen to other people's ideas. My favorite teacher at the Art Institute thinks, lives and was completely different from me. He pushed a lot. I liked that and I fought a lot with him too. I was very aggressive about school. I mean I was paying for it and I was there to learn.

Do you find much homophobia in the art world?

I had one teacher in Cleveland, where I'm from, who wouldn't talk to me. He'd go out of his way to walk around me in class. I was painting a lot of dicks—on paper I mean. But the whole world suffers equally from homophobia. We even have it in the gay community. But I shan't keep silent no matter what happens.

You have a lot of Catholic iconography in your paintings. What's your family background?

I have ten brothers. My mother goes to mass daily. I

used to do missionary inner city work in Cleveland 13 years ago. I also used to teach sculpture classes in Cleveland and my favorite group of students were a group of retired nuns. But I think spirituality is very personal and that people should keep it to themselves more. It's become too much of a fashion lately.

How long does it take you to do a painting?

Some pieces in the current show took five minutes to do. "Flossing with Jesus" I worked on five years. I work on lots of things at once. I have piles of work in different stages of completion and I just go through and do whatever needs to be done. I worked all day on a piece once and finally I cut a piece out and used it someplace else.

I do lots of work I can't show because of theft. They're very tiny and you have to hold them. What I like about painting with eye make-up and fingernail polish is their refracting quality. They're meant to be held up to the light. Of course you can look at the work in my current show that way too but you have to use your neck more than your hand. Of course I prefer using my hand myself (Jerome laughs).

I wanted to price more work under \$100 because most of my friends are poor. But I've given people work that they've thrown away. If you pay \$200 for something, you'll take care of it. But I'm terrible about money. I don't know what I'd do with lots of money except to buy more expensive materials to work with.

Some pieces in the show took five minutes. "Flossing with Jesus" I worked on five years.

Was the hair in "That hair-do's out of control" real hair?

Oh yes. They did that all the time in the middle ages—ground up the bones and fingernails of saints and mixed them in with the paint. The souls of demons and angels are invoked and enclosed in the sacred images so that the idols may have the power to do good and evil.

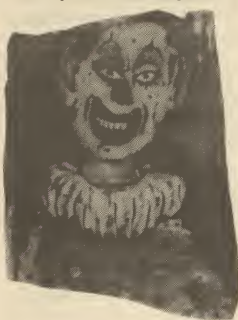
What about the dark elements in your work—violence, dismemberment and so on?

Ah, my exit into the darkness of night, but which night, not that permanent night whose name may not be pronounced, a remote reference to nocturnal states for the historian looking for the vague melancholy of the soul, profound, indiscernible darkness of being and love. In that case I should have made a theatrical exit, a false exit. I must put up with it, call on whatever signs may make it acceptable. Even so there is an opening into something. One can't deceive oneself with impunity for the imposition was there at the outset—make punishment the basis of one's only chance of salvation.

Tell me about your campaign for Empress?

Well, I think they were a little shocked when I handed in my application. But they were very nice. The receptionist said maybe I'd look nice in a little make-up and a nice dress. I thought, how about a lot of make-up and a little dress. When I showed up for my interview in a tube top and with my pubic hair showing they were really shocked. You have to go before these 12 people and they go around the table asking you questions. You're allowed to have a support person with you and I had Doris Fish.

Mainly they didn't like how I dressed. You're supposed to be a trend setter. One person asked what I'd think of seeing a lot of older, overweight men in tube tops. I said I thought it would be great. When I asked what they expected me to wear, they showed me a picture of Queen Elizabeth. How dowdy! I told them I had a full length see-through gown. Someone said maybe it would be okay if I wore a slip.



But I enjoyed the whole process. I think they're great—that whole thing. And they were very pleasant to me, as much as they could be. I have to give them credit for that. I really only entered because Ggreg Taylor asked me to. But now I'm to be crowned Empress Tyrant of San Francisco at the Electric City Benefit at the Strand after my reception at the gallery tomorrow. It's wonderful how all this just happened to come together on April Fool's Day.

Do you find it difficult being a legend in your own time?

Oh no. I think everybody should. Like the life of people's brains, at that, a different organization, a different balance, the amateur can only find his way around them with difficulty. Compare the brain to a soufflé. You put it in the oven at around the age of reason, it rises very gently, swells, dilates until it gets to the age of manhood, which varies with every individual, then it gradually sinks and ends up quite flat, or else burned, which was certainly the case with Marie and her master.

What's going to become of them? I was only speaking of it the other day to Louis who said that in serious cases where there's no family the mayor has to intervene but he'd never dare risk it after all the tales you hear about madmen barricading themselves into their houses. He could already see Monsieur Tom and his maid armed with shotguns and refusing them access to Club Uranus.

(Author's note: Appropriated texts used in Jerome's interview are Grimm's *Fairy Tales*, Robert Pinget's *That Voice*, and "On the Collaboration of Demons in the Work of Art" by Pierre Klossowski.)

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The Vision of a Saint

by Steve Abbott

Jerome Caja describes his "Compact" show at Art Lick Gallery (thru April 22) as "a show of my latest conversations with God."

The description is apt. Caja's icons (most done in fingernail polish and make-up) celebrate the joys and sufferings of today's madonnas and martyrs: drag queens, gays, people of color, the poor, women in all walks of life. Caja paints his marginalized "saints" on bottle caps, sand paper, pistachio nut shells and tossed-out urban debris.

The paintings are layered, sometimes with gouache, so that the figures look flagellated or blurred. (Who really sees street people clearly? Whose faces do we really look at in this society?) Almost all of the paintings are tiny, so small in fact that Jerome uses cigarette packages as portfolios.

Immediately I thought of a medieval book of hours. These were tiny prayer books commissioned by the rich from about 1250 to 1400. They were called books of hours because they were arranged according to the eight canonical hours of the day when they were recited by their owners.

Each book by its very nature was highly personal. Illustrations were expected to give a moral lesson but were often humorous as well, reflecting the whimsy of the artist. Lovers flirted, monkeys cavorted, and people made faces at each other in the margins. In short, ribald popular culture commingled with high spiritual aspirations.

Culture Clash

We see the same elements of this culture clash in Jerome's work too as indicated by many titles: "Praying for a winning ticket," "Barbie bringing St. Barbara the bomb," "Sermon on the Toaster," "Flossing with Jesus," "Bozo trick or treating in hell."

But the campy subject matter often has a serious political subtext. "Dat girl got Pigtits," for instance, horrified me at first by its blatant misogynist sexism. But that's the point — to make us realize just how rude, oppressive and dehumanizing sexism is.

Another work hanging over the bathroom toilet incorporates a discarded missionary flyer: "Help Mamma Clara serve her lepers" reads the banner. Underneath is a price list telling what kind of unfortunates you can help for various amounts of money.

Even the frames of Jerome's paintings have something to say. I purchased two heads (one of Christ, one of his mother) which were painted on bottle

caps and mounted on crushed soft drink cans. "Pig Disciple" is mounted on a paddle. "Cold Drink" has a silver penis in a Jack-in-the-Box paper cup cabinet. Two "Golden Gate Park" landscapes are glued onto crushed plastic bottles. Burnt wood or burnt hotpads frame other works and another is fastened to the frame with tiny spiders.

The literary equivalent of this high/low juxtaposition would be Genet, as in his following description of the death of an aging drag queen:

Divine died yesterday in a pool of her vomited blood which was so red that, as she expired, she had the supreme illusion that this blood was the visible equivalent of the black hole which a gutted violin, seen in a judge's office in the midst of a hodge-podge of pieces of evidence, revealed with a dramatic insistence, as does a Jesus the gilded chancre where gleams His flaming Sacred Heart.

Jerome sometimes paints with blood, I might add, as in "The shroud of Bozo."

Layered Meaning

Just as the paint and framing of Jerome's work is layered, so its meaning. One sees the influences of Roman coins, Giotto's frescos, Byzantine and Russian icons, paintings by symbolists, expressionists, dadists, surrealists, folk artists, underground comix. These art historical referents form an iridescent halo around the work, a metaphysical framing.

Yet none of these many influences or materials overwhelms Jerome Caja's essential vision. It takes the vision of a saint to see the mystical even in sleazy eroticism, pop culture or the junk heap of urban decay. It's a vision as simple as Christ's when he said "The stone the builders rejected will become the cornerstone." Jerome reminds us that the deepest spirituality (and beauty) lies where we might least expect to find it — in our very own daily lives. ▼

Jerome Caja's "Flossing with Jesus" is one of the artist's works in his "Compact" show at Art Lick Gallery.



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AmFAR Literary Benefit

The first of three readings for to benefit the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFar) takes place at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 12, at Herbst Theatre.

Reading on April 12 will be Amy Tan, Baharati Mukherjee and John Weir. Tickets are \$15. A reception with the artists beforehand costs \$45 to attend, and \$250 buys a dinner with the authors at soon-to-be publisher Ann Getty's home.

For tickets, phone 552-3656.

Burning Down the House

by David Taylor-Wilson

Thanks to Jo-Carol we've got to go out sometime this week and buy a new fire extinguisher.

There we were at home, all peaceful and quiet, minding our own business when the doorbell rang. The postman was delivering a test pressing of Jo's new Megatone single release. We knew it was Jo's because her photo was enclosed with the record, but we didn't know what the title of the track was because David Diebold forgot to write the title on the record's centerpiece (smile David)! We thought about playing dumb and saying her new release is called "Test Pressing." Anyway, we've since talked with Diebold and found out that Jo's new song is called "House on Fire."

It's been a while since we've had a dance single groove like this. I'm tellin' ya, this single smokes. Complete with a full, hard and heavy house beat, I guarantee that unless you're in a straight jacket there's no way you're gonna sit still when this beat hits you. At 123 BPM, the energy that emanates from this single has a fiery brilliance that's been missing from so

many of today's syncopated clone singles.

Jo's vocals are, as always, passionate, powerful and soaring. In some passages she resembles Vicki Sue Robinson's vocal stylings on the classic, "Turn The Beat Around."

We suggest you be prepared to put out some flames when you first play this one.

Heavenly Beats

One disc that's been out there for awhile that definitely deserves your attention is *Heaven*, from Capitol recording artists BeBe and CeCe Winans. We first came across their exceptional singing talent in 1987 via their single, "LOU, Me" from their debut, self-titled album. They went on to receive three Grammy nominations and a Grammy for their freshman effort.

This sibling pair sing gospel music with a contemporary flavoring that maps out an entirely new setting in the Gospel category. This past year, CeCe (Priscilla) won a Grammy for "Best Gospel Vocal Performance, Female" for her vocal stylings on the song "Don't Cry." Meanwhile,

BeBe (Benjamin) took the Grammy for "Best Gospel Vocal Performance, Male" for his stellar performance on the single "Meantime."

In these days and times when so many songs are wrought with gloom, doom and despair, *Heaven* is a breath of fresh air. Uplifting, positive and inspirational, it's like witnessing a brilliant and beautiful sunrise that promises the start of a fabulous day.

All Around The Beat (and 'Aye Yai Yai')

Lisa Stansfield is a singer who's been around for a while but in various other musical groupings. Now, with the spotlight focused directly on her, she steps out in a light that is shining brighter than ever. Her debut solo release on Arista records, *Affection*, has been beating a steady path for the top of the charts. The debut single, "All Around The World" is already Top 10 on the Pop charts and likewise headed for No. 1 (we predict that will occur within the next few weeks). However, on the Black singles chart "World" reached No. 1 just this past week. Mak-



Sizzling Jo-Carol

ing Stansfield the second white female artist in history to grab that No. 1 spot.



Lisa Stansfield

Stand back and make room, Lisa Stansfield has arrived.

Random Beats

Just got off the phone with Kim Jakwerth, Arista Publicity, West Coast, and boy is she excited. Taylor Dayne's single "Love Will Lead You Back" from her album *Can't Fight Fate*, just went to No. 1 on the national pop charts. I forgot to ask what the label is planning for a follow-up single, but we're hoping for "Up All Night." We guarantee that single will likewise burn a path to No. 1.

Kim had just gotten back from NYC where the entire Arista staff was treated to a huge birthday bash in recognition of the label's 15-year anniversary. The climax of the festivities was a benefit concert at Radio City Music Hall which featured performances by labelmates Whitney Houston, Barry Manilow, Melissa Manchester, Milli Vanilli, Dionne Warwick and the above mentioned Lisa Stansfield and Taylor Dayne. Proceeds from the benefit are earmarked for the American Foundation for AIDS Research. The show was videotaped by CBSTV with plans for airing sometime next month. Happy Birthday, Arista.

Next week we'll look at some new Arista notable releases by Carly Simon and Leila K.

★ ★ ★

New Kids On The Block continues to rack up trophies like never before. Their concert footage video, *Hangin' Tough—Live*, has just become the most successful selling music video in history. With sales in excess of 800,000 units. Surpassing the previous rec-

ord set by Michael Jackson's *Moonwalker* video. And, along with the deal they've signed with the Hasbro Toy Company to market a set of dolls modeled in their likeness, they've now been signed by Coca-Cola for a series of Classic Coke commercials.

★ ★ ★

David Geffen, founder of Geffen Records, which is home to major talents like Cher, Aerosmith, Ricki Lee Jones and Don Henley, has sold his record company to MCA, Inc., for \$550 million.

As part of the deal, Geffen will remain in his position and oversee operations. He furthermore receives a large, controlling portion of MCA stock. This transaction makes him one of the richest men in America.

We Get Letters

It's always good to hear from readers of *The Beat*, and it's especially good to hear from our No. 1 reader, Glen McLeod. He always makes sure that we get our facts straight. Which is much appreciated. He's fresh from vacation in Australia where he says Lisa Stansfield (see review above) is so popular that they play her album as background music in the supermarkets! Now that's what I call success.

He also questioned our statement from a previous column which mentioned that the *Forever Your Girl* album by Paula Abdul was the most successful debut album in history. He says the honor belongs to Whitney Houston. Well, he's right... and wrong. In the matter of sales, yes, Whitney's album sold just over eight million copies, whereas Paula's album has just surpassed the six million mark.

But in the matter of Top 10 and No. 1 singles, which is what we were alluding to, Paula beats out Whitney hands down. Not to mention everyone else in music history. O.K.? (Personal note: You can bet that soon enough, Abdul's album will overtake Houston's in total sales.) Keep those cards and letters coming.

The Rear-View

Ten years ago this week, Dan Fogelberg had the No. 1 single with "Longer." Twenty years ago this week, Simon & Garfunkel were at No. 1 with "Bridge Over Troubled Water."

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Paul McCartney in Berkeley

Return of a Fab One

by David Taylor-Wilson

The fog had rolled in enough to slightly obscure the night sky above the open-air U.C. Berkeley Memorial Auditorium last Saturday night. It brought with it a chill that made its presence known everytime we exhaled. Weather like this is the Bay Area norm, and it shouldn't have bothered us, but Paul McCartney was late and we needed an excuse to gripe about it.

A half-hour beyond the promised start time, (which is actually not bad—we've waited longer for less), the giant video screens on either side of the stage turned a devilish red, and then came the thunderous beginnings of "A Hard Day's Night." Immediately, 65,000 fans let out a deafening roar of approval and leapt to their feet. The night was off and running.

It's been 14 years since McCartney last played the Bay Area. That was during the "Wings Over America Tour." At that time, the biggest complaint fans walked away with was his reluctance to perform any of the Beatles' tunes. But this night, fans got those—and a whole lot more.

There is nowhere in the world today that McCartney could perform without it becoming a momentous occasion, but here in the Bay Area there is an accompanying memory that made his return loom even larger. For it was August 29, 1966 when the Beatles played Candlestick Park in what became the group's last ever public performance. Ironically, it was this week (April 9) in 1970 that McCartney officially announced that the Beatles were breaking up, stunning fans all around the world.



Fab Four Numbers

Probably the evening's most audible audience approval came when McCartney dedicated "Fool On The Hill" to former bandmembers John, George and Ringo. The audience stood, swayed and sang in unison. It was no secret that these people came to hear Beatles music.

The two and a half hour show continued with tunes interspersed from the time McCartney was identified as the frontman for the band Wings ("Band On the Run," "Live And Let Die"), the time since then as a solo artist ("We Got Married," "Figure of Eight"), and a very generous helping of more Fab Four numbers.

The crowd was entranced during the strains of "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band." Nine video screens flashed anonymous female

faces engrained with the ravages of time and experience while McCartney sang "Eleanor Rigby." They turned to '60s-style psychedelic patterns during "I Saw Her Standing There."

And during the rockin' "Back In The U.S.S.R." they displayed the Soviet flag's sickle and hammer symbol, updated tonight with a bouquet of flowers resting on the sickle. Could this be a result of glasnost or perhaps members of the Moscow Circus were able to get tickets and were here somewhere in the audience ... no, wait, this is Berkeley.

Here to Stay

With a career that spans three decades, and now the beginning of a fourth, McCartney made it plain that he is here to stay. The trips down the long and winding road to Penny Lane are nice, but the reason why McCartney (and the Beatles) became the single

most influential force in music history was because they always had their eye on the future. They dared to be different. They didn't just break the old rules of music back in the '60s, they made new ones with the unconventional, radical, then-new approach to musical definition.

Confirmation came that McCartney's eye is still on the future during his performance of "Coming Up!" A forgettable dance tune from 1980, it was updated here with a new back beat and replete with vocal samplings from a variety of today's rap tunes. Don't call McCartney square.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the evening had to be the closing. A medley of "Hey Jude," "Yesterday," "Get Back," "Love Me Do" and from the *Abbey Road* LP, "Golden Slumbers," "Carry That Weight" and "The End." As thousands of lit cigarette lighters were raised high and waved back and forth, tears flowed everywhere. You could see in the people's faces the happiness for having been here in this momentary retrospective time-warp, and



They came for the Beatles tunes.

the strain of knowing that the Fab Four was but a short

period of musical genius that will never be repeated. ▼

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Back With a Vengeance

(Continued from page 29)

The decadence and moral depravity of Berlin, circa 1928, are not the traditional foundation for sequined fluff. But in *Grand Hotel*, it all comes off like a rollicking good time. Liliane Montevecchi plays Grushinskaya, an aging ballerina who checks into the hotel on what will undoubtedly be her final performance tour. Once there, she encounters David Carroll who lends an outstanding tenor voice to his portrayal of the Baron. Down on his luck, the Baron sets out to rob Grushinskaya, but ends up falling in love with her instead.

Prior to this time, he has already made advances on Flaemmchen the typist (Madonna without malice), nicely played by Jane Krakowski. Flaemmchen, however, is subsequently seduced by a corrupt businessman. Meanwhile, back in the lobby, a Jewish bookkeeper, superbly played by Michael Jeter, checks into the hotel to die; the Baron is bribed at gunpoint by his chauffeur; and Grushinskaya's girl Friday, masculinely portrayed by understudy Penny Worth, sings of her undying love for her mistress. Got all that?

Don't worry, these pre-Hitler hijinks only provide the thinnest backdrop for Tune's dance-'til-you-drop choreography. As a director, he keeps the pace moving and provides enough pratfalls, charlestons, and two-steps to choke a Baryshnikov. His most clever invention is the way he uses his dancers like a Greek chorus, often having them move in unison behind the downstage action, repeating one movement over and over with their backs to the audience.

Santo Loquasto's costume design is lavishly appropriate, but Luther Davis' book, and the songs by Robert Wright and George Forrest, are lackluster at best. When *Grand Hotel* works, it's due to the

strength of the actors, sets, and choreography. But musical comedy aficionados on a limited budget should check out the Virginia Theatre and *City of Angels* before making a Broadway investment.

Celluloid City

City of Angels is a film within a play. The *noir*est of *noir* yarns, it opens with a bluesy saxophone and a narrator who succinctly explains, "L.A. is not much different than a pretty girl with the clap."

Larry Gelbart has produced an incredibly inventive tongue-in-cheek script to tell the story of a writer (Gregg Edelman) trying to transform his novel into a screenplay. The on-stage action cuts back and forth between the screenplay and the writer's real-life tribulations brought on by his wife (Kay McClelland), his mistress (Randy Graff), and an obnoxious film director played with gusto by Rene Auberjonois.

Robin Wagner's sets and Florence Klotz's costumes perfectly integrate the two stories by using only shades of gray for the film sequences and color for the "real-life" segments. Most of the performers play double roles as the writer transforms the people around him into characters for the screenplay. Only the author and his alter-ego, the film's detective played by James Naughton, have roles of their own.

Michael Blakemore's seamless direction, and Cy Coleman and David Zippel's songs make for a near-perfect production, marred only by an awkward and contrived ending where Larry Gelbart seems to have written himself into a corner. Unable to tie up the loose ends of the two separate story lines, he tacks on a mindlessly inconsistent ending where the "real-life" characters start rewriting themselves.



Rene Auberjonois plays an obnoxious film director in *City of Angels*.

(Photo: Martha Swope)

But why pick nits? This show should make a clean sweep of the Tony Awards, especially since the advance word on Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Aspects of Love* is "lower your expectations." More than anything else, *City of Angels* is a play about writing by someone who understands the process. Speaking of writing...

Tru Dish

Everything you've heard about Robert Morse's portrayal of author Truman Capote is true. It's an inspired, poignant recreation of literature's *enfant terrible*. All the action of this one-man play takes place the week before Christmas, 1975, shortly after the first chapter of Capote's *Answered Prayers* was published by *Esquire*.

By his own account, Capote described the work as a "truthful and witty account of actual people." Unfortunately, the people accounted for felt otherwise. Jay Presson Allen's script and direction show Capote, abandoned by his rich and famous friends, seeking holiday solace in vodka and attempting to sort out the twists and turns of his tortured existence.

In the process, the audience

gets a sampling of history and no small amount of Capote's own proclamations on a variety of subjects (e.g.: "Good taste is the death of creativity" and "Writing a truthful book or story always has a touch of murder in it.") Unapologetically queer, Capote sees himself as an artist taken in by the rich to alleviate their boredom and subsequently turned out when he writes honestly about their shallow vanities and preoccupations.

There are enough lesbian overtones in *Lettice and Lovage* to make N.O.W. stand up and cheer.

Kevin Haney's makeup transforms Morse into an uncanny duplicate of Capote, complimented by Sarah Edwards's costume design. Jay Presson Allen admits that 75 percent of her script is lifted directly from Capote's own words. Engaging and skillfully crafted, it has only one false moment, a gratuitous "joke" about the Jonestown massacre which actually occurred three years after the time of this play.

Bitchy, wistful, and sentimental, Morse's Capote is dead-on accurate. Perhaps more than anything else, the writer's existence is most concisely summarized by the off-hand remark, "An artist only has his life, and what passes through his life." As for Morse, he should expect another Tony to pass through his—a duplicate of the one he earned eons ago for *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

Maggie and the Cat

Rumor has it Our Miss Smith (Maggie, of course, could there be any other?) is kicking up quite a storm backstage in Peter Shaffer's comedy *Lettice and Lovage*. She hates the Ethel Barrymore Theatre, allegedly had one of her co-stars fired for a performance that was "too nelly," and she's already replaced the show's cat.

The New York production of this London success was delayed a year due to an injury to Smith's shoulder and eye surgery resulting from Grave's disease. The latter condition is the same one that threatens to turn Barbara Bush into a Marty Feldman look-alike. But whatever challenges her personal life may have presented, they are not apparent in

Smith's appearance or her performance.

Smoothly guided by Michael Blakemore (who also directed *City of Angels*), Smith turns in a deliciously broad portrayal of Lettice Douffet, a role specially written for her by the playwright. A tour guide at "the dullest house in England," Lettice embellishes upon the truth to "enlarge, enlighten, and enliven" history. Fired for her fabrications by gruff preservationist, Lotte Schoen (expertly portrayed by Margaret Tyzack), Lettice obstinately asserts in her exit interview that "fantasy floods even where fact leaves a vacuum."

Somewhat remorseful, Schoen visits Lettice at her Earl's Court flat to make amends. After a few drinks of a concoction made from lovage, an herb of the carrot family, Schoen becomes Lettice's cohort in shenanigans subtly reminiscent of an English Lucy and Ethel.

There are enough feminist and lesbian overtones in Shaffer's play to make the National Organization of Women stand up and cheer. Lettice is the inspired offspring of an English actress who abandoned her French husband and travelled throughout France, performing her own translations of Shakespeare's history plays with an all-female company. Lettice herself has apparently never married, and the nature of her relationship with Ms. Schoen may well go beyond the bounds of casual friendship.

In the third act, when Schoen appears to be abandoning Lettice, she tosses her keys to the Earl's Court flat onto Lettice's table. At the same time, the audience learns Lettice's resident landlord is complaining about the loud noises generated by the two women. Do they live together or don't they? It is suggested but never clarified by the script.

One thing that's perfectly clear is how the part of Lettice has been tailored to Smith's larger-than-life talents. She chews Alan Tagg's scenery with great aplomb, while scraping and bowing like an Elizabethan squire in Frank Krenz's elaborate outfits. With excellent help from her supporting cast, including a great comic turn by Bette Henritze as Schoen's secretary, Maggie Smith is in rare form.

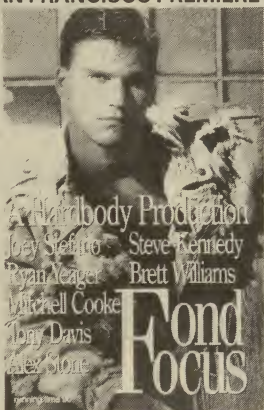
Gir-uls, gir-uls, Miss Smith is in her prime, and no visit to Broadway this season would be complete without a trip to the Barrymore Theatre. ▼

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Bay Area Reporter

Sports & Fitness

Early Leads Hold In Softball League Play

by Rick Ritt

There is an old sports adage about the importance of getting an early lead. This past Sunday at Jackson Field, many Gay Softball League teams took this rule to heart, exploding for a big first inning and then sitting back as they coasted to easy victory.

The biggest explosion of all came in the final game of the day as the Uncle Bert's/Sweet Inspirations tallied 11 runs in their first at bat on the way to an easy 17-0 victory over the Pendulum Pirates. Mike Gray paced the Bombers with a perfect day that included a home run and a triple.

Not since the Ambush team of 1984 has there been such an imposing offense on one team, so watch out for these guys.

Last year's defending National Invitational champs, Rolo (formerly the Galleon) served notice that they are bent on defending their title as they, too, scored 11 times in the first, routing the Pilsner Pistons 17-0 in a run-rule shortened game.

The "Clothes Horses" appear to be even stronger than ever. Even after losing key player Mark Woodyard, they were able to come up with a replacement, Eric Politzer from last year's Stud team, and several new players as well.

The Women's division also had its share of first inning heroics as Ellen Brin powered a three-run homer in the first to give Amelia's/Women's Traveler an early lead, which they never relinquished. They defeated the Galleon Women by a final score of 13-8.

'Roos Triumph Over Coral

In the most exciting contest of the day, Les Faber doubled in the winning run in his first ever at-bat in the G.S.L. to give the Rainbow 'Roos a hard fought 9-8 win over the Corral. The balance of the 'Roos offense was provided by John Parsons, who contributed two three-run home runs.

The Corral found themselves on the short end of both their games of their double header as Uncle Bert's Brats scored nine runs in the final two innings to break open a close contest for a 14-3 victory.

Key hits for the Brats were Noreen "Howie" O'Donnell's two-run single in the fifth and Jeff Baker's three-run homer in the sixth.

In two "C" division clashes, the Pendulum Bucs behind David Boutelle's three home runs topped the Mint/Hot n' Hunky 12-6.

Bob Hartman was outstanding for the "Burger Men" in defeat.

In the only surprise of the day, Rossi's Meats, comprised of mostly players under 21, got out to an early lead on the Rainbow 'Toos and were able to defeat them 20-7. Pacing the

"Packers" was Aaron, who got three hits to lead his team to the win.

In other league action, Athena Electric bested the Cafe Sn Marcos Women 11-8 in a Women's division contest. It was also a bad day for the Cafe on the male side as the Stud powered past the Cafe Men 22-11.

The Rawhide, on the strength of John Roller's grand slam, gained an easy 12-1 victory over the SF Eagle.

Fundraisers Galore

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(Continued on page 42)



Cassidy Cabinettes played Group Therapy on Sunday.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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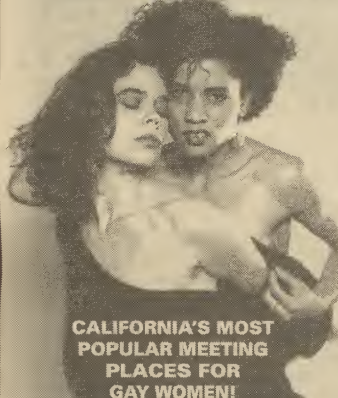
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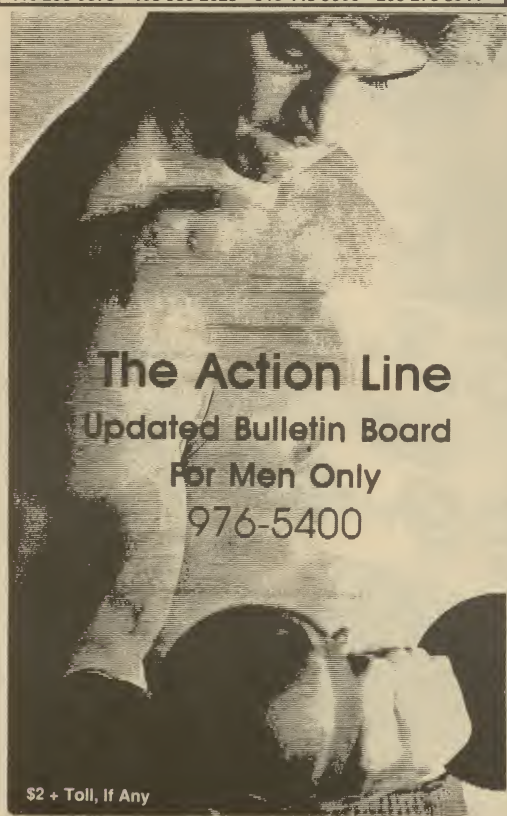
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BOWLING

The Ambience is Real

by Will Snyder

Japantown Bowl calls its gay and lesbian leagues the "community" leagues. The word, community, has a nice, folksy sound to it. But before the cynics snicker, it should be understood that the ambience is real.

Many of the bowlers who start bowling at JTown stay around for many seasons. This point couldn't be emphasized better than with the Thursday Community League, the only afternoon gay and lesbian bowling league in San Francisco.

This is not to say that the league isn't smaller now than it has been for a while. It is down to seven teams during the current season.

But many of these guys have been bowling for so long it is like (according to our new publicity flyers) gathering the family together once a week.

Take a look at the teams and you see some of San Francisco's well-known gay bars and restaurants represented: Charpe's, Rick's Gold Room (two teams), Polk Rendezvous, The Pendulum, The Cinch. The only team without a team sponsor in the name is the team known as The Specialists, but two of three members (Larry Rogers and Ricky Wright) represent the gay community quite well in JTown's Tuesday night Restaurant/Hotel League for Leticia's.

There's room for more teams in the Thursday, 1 p.m. league. The new Thursday Community League will start on May 10. Anyone who works a night job, especially as a bartender or restaurant employee

should love this kind of league. It is a trios league, so it is usually over by 2:30 p.m.

And the company is nice. Anyone interested in getting in on the fun in a really FUN league should give me a call at 921-6200.

★ ★ ★

We need to clear up a few boo-boos from the last column about women bowlers at Japantown. T.J. Woods is the vice president, not the president of the Tuesday Community League (sorry about that, Pete Czech). Carol Hull, our Wednesday league president, also bowls in the Monday Gay Games/Community League and, like Kathy Perkins in the Wednesday League, dominates individual statistics with the top scratch series (553), scratch game (230), handicap series (685) and handicap game (274).

★ ★ ★

Here are the 200-plus games and 600-plus series in the Community Leagues from March 18-April 1:

Sunday Reno League, March 18: Vince DiColla (173 average) 223; Ron Smola (174) 202; John Galaznik (170) 202; Richard Jones (179) 233.

Monday Community Gay Games League, March 19: Tim Kneis (177) 213; Bill Pierson (181) 216, 206, 619 series; Phil Lewis (170) 203; Roger Spencer (155) 232.

Tuesday Community League, March 20: Alan Pex (156) 220; Allen Neitzke (179) 213; Chuck Adkins (180) 200; Dan Kiger (141) 204; Hunter Bauman (179) 217; Jeff Turner (165) 217; Don Gambell (190) 228, 204 628 series; Tim Mulvenon (188) 220, 228, 234, 682 series; Dan Burley (176) 216.

Wednesday Community League, March 21: Todd Brooks (185) 203, 219; Gregg Lambdin (179) 207; David Tangredi (197) 202, 204; Doug



Kathy Perkins

Lucas (153) 202; Jeff Zadora (153) 220.

Thursday, Community League, March 22: Wally Dennis (152) 201.

Saturday Gay Games League, March 24: David Arnold (188) 201, 204; Don Gambell (183) 236, 609 series.

Sunday Reno League, March 25: Roger Spencer (173) 203, 205; Glenn Judd (178) 205, 204; Mischa Kistain (149) 202; Doug Victor (143) 213; Vince DiColla (172) 208; Ron Smola (178) 201.

Monday Community/Gay Games League, March 26: Chuck Adkins (176) 243, 205, 631 series; Bill Pierson (185) 201; Kevin Ferrell (140) 220.

Tuesday Community League, March 27: Hunter Bauman (179) 217; Scott Miller (166) 239; Ken Cady (183) 202; Chuck Adkins (180) 203; Don Gambell (191) 206, 234; Bob Bates (167) 268; Tim Mulvenon (190) 241, 246, 662 series; Randy Peterson (186) 212; Steve Valone (152) 206; M. O'Rourke (166) 211, 211.

Wednesday Community League, March 28: Greg Hettmansperger (162) 223; Todd Brooks (185) 209; Jesse Vargas (162) 213; Andrea Mortensen (139) 201; Jeff Zadora (155) 213; Walt Fonseca (135) 207.

Thursday Community League, March 29: Richard Pierson (150) 211; Cliff Russell (163) 207.

Friday Community League, March 30: "Daddy" Aguirre (163) 201; Efrén Carranza (136) 220.

Sunday Reno League, April 1: Kirk Smith (181) 214; Richard Jones (179) 213; Glenn Judd (180) 205. ▼

Pacers Top Brewmasters

by Joseph Nelson

The Pendulum Pacers streaked to their fourth consecutive victory, over the Brewmasters, 65-59. This was the first victory for the Pacers over one of the league's upper echelon teams. Now, the Pacers have an 8-3 record and are tied with only one other team for second place with a single game remaining in the regular season.

Steve Moore had an astounding first half, hitting five of six three point attempts, toward a first-half total of 23 points (out of 33 for the entire team). In the second half, the scoring was done primarily by Mike Gray (having his best game as a Pacer) and smooth John Wood.

The Pacers were usually in control of the game, except for an upsetting series of plays near the end. However, Mike Gray converted three consecutive free throws at that critical juncture to guarantee the win. Steve did not score in the second half. Mike Gray totalled 18 points, and John Wood had 13.

The Pacers had only seven players available for this game, all of whom made significant contributions to this important win. Joe Robinson had his first sizable amount of playing time, grabbing several rebounds and handling the ball well. His play was critical to the team, since power-center Mike White had gotten into foul trouble.

Mark Johnson, one of the team's best offensive threats, is out for the season because of knee problems. It is hoped that Tom Naldoza will return from his injury soon.

Though the team's bench is

depleted, most of the players seem to have hit their stride. New coach John Mitchell is changing the style of play, and his approach seems to be working well.

Tonight's last regular season game is against the 500 Club at 7:40 at the Collingwood gym. The Pacers probably will have their first playoff game on Thursday, April 12 at 8:30 at the same place.

The Pacers now have the best fan base in the league. The cheering of the crowd has often helped change the momentum of the game in the Pacers' favor, so keep coming.

It could be realistically argued that the Pacers are currently the best gay basketball team in the world. They will be anxious to prove that assessment in Vancouver in August. ▼

Softball

(Continued from page 41)

for the annual Pilsner Inn Plant Auction. If you need some greenery for your home, come on out and purchase a plant from the Penguins and the Pistons.

This Saturday, April 7, is Cassidy's Bar-B-Q at Olive Oyls from 4 to 9 p.m. Olive Oyls is located at Pier 50. Admission is \$5.

Uncle Bert's has opened up the Patio Bar-B-Q on week-

ends. The Bombers will be grilling on Saturdays with the Brats doing the cooking on Sundays.

The Women's division is



having a raffle. Tickets are \$2 each with the Grand Prize being a round-trip ticket to Pittsburgh for the World Series this August. Second prize is two round-trip tickets to Pittsburgh!

There is a league meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 21, at noon. All league members are encourage to attend.

Sunday, all games will be played at Balboa Park (San Jose and Ocean Ave). It is also Team Garbanzo Day, so all team members wear your shirts. ▼

PROFILE

Racquetball League's Wref Fulton

Prime Motivator

by Kitty Tsui

I first met Wref Fulton, the affable owner of Petpourri, three years ago when I went to buy a bag of Science Diet for my Hungarian vizsla, Meggie. At that time, what struck me about him was his knowledge of pet care, friendly demeanor and willingness to give advice. I've been shopping there ever since.

The business will be four years old in May. Fulton started Petpourri because he is a staunch animal rights advocate and animal care is his second love. His first love(s) are his two beagles, nine year old Tara and her six-year-old daughter, Crystal Gayle, who his now deceased lover, Bill, picked out. Fulton's eyes misted over when he told me that every time he looks at Crystal Gayle, he still thinks of Bill.

Racquetball is Fulton's third love. In 1974 he started playing out of sheer boredom when he was stationed at a remote airbase in the north of England. He has played on and off ever since and developed his love for the sport when he moved to San Francisco. In 1980 Fulton actively sought out other gays who played the game. Racquetball was not a sport at Gay Games I so Fulton actively worked to get it included as a competition event at Gay Games II.

"Because the Games were in San Francisco in 1986 there wasn't an urgency to be part of an organized team. But now that we're going out of the city, we're going to Vancouver as a team."

The organization is called the Bay Area Racquetball Club (B.A.R.C.) and they play at Schober's Athletic Club in South San Francisco. Fulton also masterminded the forming of league teams (the men's teams are called "The Blueballers," "The Killshots" and "The Sweetspots") and is heading the organizing for the upcoming First Annual Memorial Day Racquetball Tournament in San Francisco.

Game's Tune-Up

The tournament will be a tune-up for the Games. Fulton stresses that people must be in good mental as well as physical condition and adds, "I want to give people the experience of playing at a competition level because you need to know how to play under pressure. We're expecting people from Los Angeles, San Diego, Chicago, Seattle, Sacramento and Vancouver. When San Francisco does something, people expect the best. This tournament will be a first-class event! I hope the gay community will come out to Schober's (both as players

and as spectators) to support us.

Encouraging Words

Racquetball is an exclusive sport where one has to be a member of a club that has courts and pay annual dues that can start at \$660 and skyrocket. For the novice player, a racquet, a tube of balls, good shoes, and eye-guards (which are essential as a matter of protection) are the requisite equipment. "I'd like to encourage anyone who wants to learn to come out and watch or practice. Don't be afraid of the caliber of play. You have to start somewhere. There's a fine line between competition and winning. No matter who we are we want to do our best to win. But I want to stress the competition aspect and not so much the winning aspect."

The men play on Sunday mornings and the women on Wednesday evenings. Fulton claims readily that he is not the best player in the club but he also admits readily that he is



Gay racquetball's biggest champion, Wref Fulton.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

the prime motivator. Eleven of the team just completed their first tournament in Sacramento and swept seven of the eight titles, a true testament to Fulton's dedication. This past month he was honored by his peers with an Apex Award. He was reluctant to share this information and admits that he has a hard time with accolades.

"Being part of a gay organi-

zation is all the thanks I need. I personally have so much adrenalin to go to Gay Games III. Over 5,000 athletes have already registered. Anyone who misses this will miss the experience of their lives. It's been a dream. To see it coming together is both fulfilling and a great feeling."

Though hardly able to contain his bubbling enthusiasm,

he muses sadly, "I'm probably speaking for a lot of gay men. I don't know if I'll be here in four years to come."

Racquetball is a fun activity and an exhilarating sport. For more information about the Bay Area Racquetball Club or entry forms for the Memorial Day Racquetball Tournament, call Wref Fulton at 626-7758 or Terry Rogers at 821-7578. ▼



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POOL

Rios Romps to Third Captains' Title



Thirty S.F. Pool Association captains were on hand last Tuesday at Park Bowl for a brief mid-season meeting and a single game, double elimination contest to decide the winner of this season's Captains' Tournament.

Antonio Rios, founder of the Cinch Shooting Stars, has apparently adopted the contest as his own as he sailed undefeated through his opponents to claim his third consecutive Captains' Title. Paving the way for his date with destiny were Mo Wheelock, Curtis Franklin, Barry White, Cathy Sutton and Jim Russo. Russo bested Jim Dreer more, by virtue of Jim's 8-ball scratch in the final game.

Barulich and Toni Ihler.

On Saturday the action turned to the Transfer and Pilsner where Lisa Duncan and Tony Phan joined the finalists. Lisa's draw included Ramona DiMarco, Marna Stein, Rick Bradford and Ann Young. Tony bested Robin Berkowitz,

Butch McAllister and Carl Carr.

These four join the two selected at the kick-off qualifier, Jim Russo and John Schou, as finalists in the main event for Saturday, April 21. Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information. ▼

Sports Calendar

SF Slammers

Women's basketball practice Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at The Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. Susan, 824-4697.

Men's Basketball Organization

Practice on Sundays, 6-8 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. Tony, 621-2710.

Tavern Bowling League

For info call Mal, 752-2366.

SF Women's Business Bowling League

Bowl Sundays, 6 p.m. at Park Bowl, 1855 Haight. Ann, 337-6721.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club

Tuesday and Friday practices, 7-9 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels welcome. Gene, 821-2991.

SF Wrestling Club

Workout: Apr. 7 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All forms & styles of wrestling; all ages, weights welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.

Volleyball Club

Sundays, 8 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels welcome. Mike, 626-4743.

Gay Volleyball

Every Sunday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the school yard at 18th St. & Deharo. All welcome, including beginners. Jay, 864-0257.

Bay Area Racquetball Club

Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Schoeber's Athletic Club, South SF. All skill levels welcome. Wref, 626-7758.

Gay Tennis Federation

For info call Michael, 431-1721.

Birds of a Feather Women's Badminton

Women's practice on Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at French American School gym, 200 Buchanan. Open badminton for men and women on Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., at Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood. Pat, 626-4950.

SF Spikes

Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at West Sunset Soccer Fields, 40th Ave. & Ortega, and Thursdays at 8 p.m. at Moscone Field, Chestnut & Laguna. Carlo, 821-4248.

Saga North Ski Club

For info call SAGA, 995-2772.

X-Ta-C Cross Country Ski Club

For info call Jim or Trudy, 995-2736.

Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team

Sundays, 10 a.m.-noon, at King Pool, 3rd St. & Carrol. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30-9 p.m., at Hamilton Pool, Geary & Steiner. Laurie, 255-9091, or Johnny, 626-0561.

SF Water Polo

Practices Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturday mornings, 9-10:30 a.m., at Coffman Pool, corner of Visitation and Hahn, SF. Men & women of all skill levels welcome. John, 621-07831.

SF FrontRunners

Tuesday Fun Runs: 6:30 p.m., Ferry Bldg, Embarcadero; no-host dinner follows. Thursday Fun Runs: 6:30 p.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, no-host dinner follows. Sunday Fun Runs: 10 a.m., location to be announced. Rod, 621-2213.

EastBay FrontRunners

Saturday, Apr. 7: St. Mary's—Moraga, 9:30 a.m. Roz, 939-3579, or Greg, 865-6792.

Different Spokes Bicycle Club

200-member recreational cycling club, bimonthly meetings, organized rides each weekend. All levels welcome. Decide-and Rides each Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m., McLaren Lodge, Stanyan & Oak Sts., Golden Gate Park. PO Box 14711, SF 94114. Weekly schedule: 282-1647.

SF Hiking Club

Sunday, Apr. 8: Black Diamond Mines, Contra Costa County. Meet under big Safeway sign on Market/Dolores at 9 a.m. Bring lunch, canteen, flashlight. \$10/car. Rain cancels. Clyde, 285-1260.

SF Track & Field

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. and Sundays, 10:30 a.m. at SF State University track, 1600 Holloway. All skill levels welcome. Rick, 626-8784.

On the Qualifier Trail

Six of the final field of sixteen players have been decided with the completion of three qualifying tournaments in the quest for this year's Annual 8-Ball Championship, sponsored by Golden Brands on behalf of Miller Lite. The Bear and Special hosted last Thursday night's contest, where Alonzo "Pooh Bear" Davis bested his draw, beginning with Donna Hughes-Oldenburg and continuing through Ching Ng, Jack Dunbar and Gary Brower.

David Lee was the other lucky player, getting by Ann Young, Jamie Jamison, Ron

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Monday, April 16

7:30 p.m.

Reading & Discussion

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THIS

FRIDAY 6

- **I-Beam:** Crazy 8's, Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeno Band. 10 p.m. \$6 adv. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- **Screw:** DJs Lewis & Mike, crucial music alteration space, videos, bar dancers, confusions. Prograssive drink prices. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1. 496 Guerrero/14th St., SF. 282-3325.
- **El Rio:** DJ Franco (5-8 p.m. Happy Hour), DJ Elton Brown (10 p.m.-2 a.m.). No cover. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Atlantis Paved Over:** A multi-media revue in 12 dramatic scenes on the automobile by playwrights, poets, city planners, reporters. Thru Apr. 22, plays Fri.-Sun. at 8 p.m. \$8. Studio Eremos, Alabama & 17th St., SF. 621-8875.
- **Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra Plays Haydn:** Conductor Nicholas McGegan. Guest Lowell Greer, natural horn. 8 p.m. \$15-22. Herbst Theatre, Van Ness & McAllister, SF. 552-3656.
- **A Conversation with John Adams:** The creator of *Nixon in China* discusses his craft and reveals excerpts from recent works. 8 p.m. \$5-7. SF Conservatory of Music, Hellman Hall, 19th Ave. & Ortega, SF. 665-0874.
- **Gay Men's Group Oil Massage:** Touch & be touched. 7:30-10 p.m., arrive by 7:30 p.m. \$10. 552 Castro B, SF. Bruce, 626-2026.

SATURDAY 7

- **I-Beam:** High Energy & House Music, plus sexy, young studs take it off at 10:30 p.m. & 12 a.m. \$5, free w/pass. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- **Colossus:** After hours House/Urban/Funk/Disco dance club. Doors at 9:30 p.m. \$8, 21+. 1015 Folsom/6th St., SF. 431-80YS.
- **Club Euphoria:** Saturday nights at the Crystal Pistol, 842 Valencia/19th St., SF. New Beat, Rap, '70s with DJs Lewis & Greg. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$2 cover.
- **El Rio:** L-Z, Bedrock. 10 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Gay Community Awards Nomination Parties:** Watering Hole at 3 p.m. and Kimo's at 10 p.m.
- **Bay Area Theatre Sports: Slumber Party Slaughter,** improvisational theatre. 11 p.m. \$6. New Performance Gallery Loft, 3153 17th St., SF. 824-8220.
- **A Different Light:** Dramatic reading of Ray Leland Caley's play *And the Shots Rang Out*. 3:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.
- **Collectable Glass, China & Pottery Sale and Show:** 35 dealers with Depression glass, Heisey, Cambridge, Fostoria & others along with Fiesta and Hall pottery. Apr. 7 & 8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$3. Hall of Flowers, 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way, SF. Info: 626-4449.
- **Gigantic Sidewalk Sale:** Benefits Kairos House. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Donations needed, call about delivery or pick-up. Sale on Corbett btwn Douglass & Ord of 17th. 861-0877.
- **Gay/Lesbian Sierrans:** Angel Island hike. Bring lunch, \$7 ferry fare, layered clothing. Meet at Pier 41 at 10:30 a.m., return approx. 4:15 p.m. Rain reschedules to May 26. 861-2391.
- **Softball for Lesbian & Gay Youth:** Saturdays, 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Big Rec. Field, Lincoln & 6th Ave., SF (weather permitting). Bring softball equipment if possible. 658-6912.



- **Earthwatch Celebration:** A contemporary dance concert focusing on environmental themes with the Tance Danz company, PointFix dance collective and Cecelia Marie Bowman's Mojazz. Apr. 6 & 7 at 8:30 p.m. \$10. Third Wave Theatre, 3316 24th St./Mission, SF. 968-5959.

SUNDAY 8

- **I-Beam:** Sunday T-dance. Male dancers at 8, 9 & 10 p.m. 5 p.m.-2 a.m. \$4, \$3 w/pass. 1748 Haight. 668-6023.
- **Club Uranus:** DJs Mike & Lewis. \$2 w/pass, \$3 w/o. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. 401 Harrison & 6th St., SF.
- **El Rio:** Voz (Brazilian). 4-8 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission, SF. 282-3325.



• **Kitaro—World Tour 1990:** Performing his new acoustic release *Kojiki*, his musical interpretation of ancient Japanese myths of creation. Apr. 7 at 8 p.m. Berkeley Community Theatre, Allston Way, Berkeley. 845-2308.

- **Autographed Album Auction:** Benefits Project Open Hand and Friends of the Urban Forest. KRQR FM sponsors, featuring LPs and CDs signed by Madonna, Sister Double Happiness, Eric Clapton & more! 6 p.m. \$5. DNA Lounge, 375 11th St., SF. 626-2532.
- **Gay Community Awards Nomination Parties:** SF Eagle at 2 p.m.
- **Bench & Bar:** Variety show with dancing, singing, female impersonators at 10 p.m. Preceded by CW dancing, free chili & hot dogs, 7-10 p.m. 120 11th St., Oakland. 444-2266.
- **A Different Light:** Bert Herman book publication celebration, *Being Happy, Being Gay*, 3:30 p.m. Don Mark & John Powers read their poetry, 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.
- **Active Poets from the Baltic Republics:** 7:30 p.m. \$2. National Poetry Assn., Ft. Mason Center, Bldg D, Rm. 270, SF. 776-6602.
- **Piano Recital:** Seth Montfort plays Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin & others. 5 p.m. \$7. SF Dance Theatre, 60 Brady/Gough & Market, SF.
- **Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Board of Directors at 2 p.m. Open community/general membership at 5 p.m. Attend 2 of 3 consecutive meetings and become a voting member. 1519 Mission, SF. 864-FREE.
- **Lesbian & Gay Parents:** Spring potluck & Easter egg hunt. 1-4 p.m. Call 457-1115.
- **Lesbian & Gay Hortiphiles:** Tour Oakland's Lakeside Gardens. Meet at 2 p.m. Newcomers welcome. Peter, 843-5272, or Henrietta, (408) 246-1117.
- **Hosanna Church of Praise:** Formerly Holy Trinity Community Church of San Jose, an evangelical congregation with a ministry to the gay & lesbian community. Service at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 24 N. 5th St., San Jose. Pastor Randy Hill, (408) 293-2437.
- **Religious Science of SF:** Sunday celebration & lecture. 10:30 p.m. 255 Valencia, 2nd floor. John, 641-1702.
- **Dignity:** Liturgy for gay/lesbian Catholics and friends at 5:30 p.m. at Dolores St. Community Cntr, 15th St. & Dolores. Call 255-9244.
- **Integrity:** Eucharist for the gathering community, 5:30 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church, 1661 15th St./Valencia. Call 553-5270.
- **SF MCC:** services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. (childcare and signing for the hearing-impaired). 7 p.m. worship and praise healing service. Recovery team at 1 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka. Call 863-4434.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** 11:30 a.m. at 48 Belcher (btwn 14th & Dolores), SF. Call 621-6300.

MONDAY 9

- **Godesses of Southeast Asia and India:** 35-sculpture exhibit entitled "Women: Auspicious and Divine." Wed.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$2-4. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park, SF. 668-8932.
- **James Rosenquist: "Welcome to the Water Planet and House of Fire":** An exhibition of mural-sized paperworks by the renowned American Pop artist. Thru May 12; Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Erika Meyerovich Gallery, 231 Grant, SF. 421-9997.
- **Gay Male Spirituality:** 4-week exploratory course for caregivers and friends of those affected by HIV. Limit 8. Mondays, Apr. 9-30, 7:30 p.m. Kairos House, 114 Douglass, SF. 861-0877.
- **Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Booth committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. 1519 Mission, SF. 864-FREE.
- **Duplicate Bridge Game:** 7 p.m. open game at Quicktricks Bridge Club at MCC Church, 150 Eureka. 285-5155.

WEEK

TUESDAY 10

- **I/You:** Photographic works by Dorit Cypis & Robert Heinecken. Thru May 3, Tue-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Walter/McBean Gallery, SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut, SF. 771-7020.
- **Modern Times Bookstore:** Open gay & lesbian poetry reading by writers from various levels and disciplines. Hosted by Stephanie Henderson. 7:30 p.m. 968 Valencia, SF. 282-9246.
- **Gay Artists & Writers Kollektive (GAWK):** Parade meeting, 8 p.m. Jon Sugar, 731-2424.
- **Gay & Lesbian Modern Conversational Hebrew Class:** Tuesdays at 7 p.m., class runs indefinitely. \$5 per person, per class. Cong. Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers, SF. 861-6932 or 861-1362. Fee waived for those with life threatening illnesses.

WEDNESDAY 11

- **El Rio:** Comics Tom Ammiano, Shan Carr, Laura Milligan, Ralph Tyko. \$5. 9 p.m. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- **Spring Fever Big Boy Bash:** Gus Bean (Colossus) & Gary Walker present alternative young men's and women's dance night to 400 S. First St., San Jose. 9 p.m. \$6 w/invtie, 21+. Hotline: (408) 947-5959.
- **Edwina Lee Tyler & A Piece of the World:** Tyler and her percussion and dance ensemble return bringing talking drums, chants, dance & powerful performances. Apr. 11 & 12, 8 & 10 p.m. each night. \$15. Kimballs East, 5800 Shellmound, Emeryville. 658-2555.
- **Jo Spence "Self Documentation—Public or Private Photography":** One of Britain's leading photographers lectures on her explorations of sexuality, social problems, myth and power structures. 8 p.m. \$3-5. SF Camerawork, 70 12th St., SF. 621-1001.

HOT TIPS



CABARET

- **John Vierra & Charley Geary:** An evening of unsurpassed musical entertainment of Broadway standards, '30s & '40s classics, pop and original material. Apr. 7 at 8 & 10 p.m. \$12 plus 2-drink minimum. Plush Room, New York Hotel, 940 Sutter, SF. 885-6800.

MUSIC

- **Ports O' Call:** The spring concert of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and guests, the San Diego Men's Chorus. Apr. 7 at 8 p.m. \$10-15 adv., \$12-17. First Congregational Church, Post & Mason, SF. 863-8326.

DANCE

- **Asian Pacific Performing Arts Festival:** Traditional and contemporary music and dance featuring leading Bay Area artists. Apr. 7 at 8 p.m. & Apr. 8 at 2 p.m.—Oakland Ensemble Theatre. Apr. 13 & 14 at 8 p.m.—Cowell Theatre, SF. Apr. 21 at 8 p.m.—Flint Center, Cupertino. \$9 adv., \$12. Info: 552-8980. Tickets: 552-3656.

THEATRE

- **Dolores Street:** Premiere of a sprightly new comedy by Theresa Carilli about four women sharing an apartment and learning the ropes in a new city, from potlucks to personal ads. Opens Apr. 6, plays Wed.-Sun. at 8:30 p.m. \$9-10. Theatre Rhinoceros Studio, 2926 16th St., SF. 861-5079.

POETRY/FICTION READING

- **Paul Monette:** Paul Monette, *Borrowed Time and Love Alone*, reads from and signs his new novel *Afterlife*. 7:30 p.m. A Different Light, 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.

ART

- **"Compact"—Over 100 Miniature Paintings By Jerome Caja:** Apr. 1-22. Reception: Apr. 1, 3-5 p.m. Art Lick Gallery, 4147 19th St., SF. 621-5131. Hours: Wed.-Sat., 12-7 p.m.; Sun., 12-6 p.m.

LEATHER

- **4th Annual International Ms Leather Contest:** "A Night in the Dungeon," the premiere event for leatherwomen everywhere! Apr. 7 at 8 p.m. \$20. The California Club, 1750 Clay, SF. Tickets available at Mr. S Leather, 1779 Folsom, SF. 863-7764.



- **Gay Men's Sketch:** Classical nude modeling by Marcus Allen. 2 min. gestures to a 40 min. pose. Open to all skill levels. Tuesday, Apr. 10, 7-10 p.m. \$12. 1229 Folsom, SF. Reservations, 621-6294.

- **Fashion Show of Formal Wear for the '90s:** Sponsored by the Golden Gate Business Assn. 5:30-8 p.m. \$8 adv., \$9. Black & White Formal Wear, 1233 Sutter/Polk, SF. 441-3651.

- **Old Wives' Tales:** Selma James, internationally known leader, organizer, speaker, women's issues writer, reads from *The Ladies and the Mammies: Jane Austen and Jean Rhys*. 7:30 p.m. Donation. Especially for women. 1009 Valencia, SF. 821-4675.

- **Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG):** Marin chapter monthly meeting, 7:30 p.m. 26 Kensington Court, San Anselmo.

- **Bondage Buddies:** Social/informational meeting for gay men with an interest in bondage. Topic: Spandex/stretchy bondage. 8 p.m. \$7. 1229 Folsom, SF. 621-6294.

- **Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Celebration committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. For location call 864-FREE.

- **Federal Lesbians And Gays (FLAG):** Guest speaker: Lori Jean, one of the highest ranking open lesbians in federal service. 6 p.m. No-host bar, free snacks. \$2. Charpe's, 131 Gough, SF. 695-9174.

THURSDAY 12

- **El Rio:** Cocktail Party with comedienne Marilyn Pittman, exotic dancer Renwick, female impersonator Yavonda, DJ Cory Iwatsu. Free. 3158 Mission, SF. 282-3325.

- **Gay Community Awards Nomination Parties:** Aunt Charlie's at 6 p.m. and New Peter Pan at 7 p.m.

- **A Girl's Guide to Chaos:** A play by Cynthia Heimel. Thru Apr. 21, plays Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m. \$8. EXITheatre, 366 Eddy, SF. 931-1094.

- **Vision Gallery:** "Marilyn Marilyn" vintage prints of Monroe by Hollywood's leading & legendary photographers. "Hollywood 'Icons'" portraits from the '20s through the '50s. Reception: 6-9 p.m. 1155 Mission/8th St., SF. 621-2107.

- **Old Wives' Tales Bookstore:** Elinor Gadon reads from her book *The Once and Future Goddess*, which explores the interconnection of women's cultural roles and the treatment of the environment. 7:30 p.m. Donation. 1009 Valencia, SF. 821-4675.

- **Commission on the Status of Women:** Meetings & public testimony. "Women & Economics," 4:30-5:30 p.m.; public comment, 5:30-6:30 p.m. SF Fire Dept. Commission Room, 260 Golden Gate/Hyde, Rm. 201, SF. 558-3653.

- **Bay Area Career Women:** "Making History: Lesbians Leading the Way," a celebration with the five lesbian candidates for public office. 5:30 p.m. no-host bar, 7-9 p.m. panel. \$6-10. City Club, Post & Sansome, SF. 495-5393.

- **Movie Acting Workshop for Gays & Lesbians:** Practice skills on camera. 5-week course with emphasis on ensemble work begins tonight, 7-10 p.m. 12 limit. Reservation/info, 775-6143 or write Acting Out On Camera, Persona Video, Box 14022, SF 94114.

- **Rainbow's End Lesbian/Gay Youth Group:** Open to ages 14-21. Thursdays, 7 p.m., 1000 Sir Francis Drake, Rm. 12, San Anselmo, Marin County. 457-1115.

- **Men of All Colors Together Greater Bay Area:** MACT/BWMT AIDS Task Force meeting, 7 p.m. 273 Church, SF. Lee, 255-8378.

- **Lambda Amateur Radio Club:** Meeting, 8 p.m. Gay/lesbian radio hams and those interested. 863-1196.

- **ACT UP/SF:** Weekly meetings, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St., SF. 563-0764. Wheelchair access.



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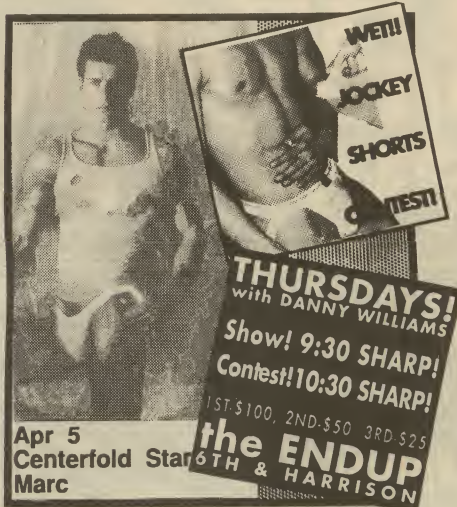
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Up Close

(Continued from page 33)

Or linked by thematic concerns?

If we're linked by anything, it's the material. And part of it has to do with writing about gay sex and gay life openly now and seriously now. We had this bridge of writers who were the original gay writers, [Larry] Kramer and [Andrew] Holleran and whoever, who were telling us a story. Now we have writers who are able to incorporate that material, and it's not a genre anymore; this is writing. People are gay, or they're not gay.

If there's any link I see in writers as different as Dennis and Dorothy, for instance, it's that the writing itself matters. It's not just the story or just the characters; it's a focus on the text.

There wasn't much room for those writers like Larry Kramer, although I think he's a good writer, to do that because they were trying to get out information.

Now you can have craftspeople. So the concentration on craft is a link, but I don't know that anybody is excluded from that. Most good writers care about their sentences, their paragraphs, their structure and the rhythm of their narrative. And I can't think of anybody doing anything new. Bizarre and inventive, yes.

So-called new narrative fiction and most '80s fiction is very referential. Many of its touchstones are movie stars and films and old TV shows with their various characters. Your fiction often centers around figures modeled after these icons. Why do we seize on them? Have we, as one critic put it, become "cultural cesspools"?

It's who we grow up with. I know that's a large part of my attraction. Somewhere along the line in my life, I've imposed meaning on these people, and it's not recent. The reason that people get so crazy about it now is because of television. But I know my parents' generation learned life from the movies. They learned how to act, how to be and what to think. People ten, 20 years older than us, that's their reference point.

And we always think that past reference points have more validity. That Andy Hardy has more depth than The Brady Bunch.

Well, I find *The Brady Bunch*, since you brought them up, very fascinating. Because you know how people talk about the dysfunctional family? To me, *The Brady Bunch* is the functional family. The perfect family. In the sense that they care about each other. The parents are involved in their children's lives. They all learn from their mistakes.

All the families everybody I knew grew up in should have been *The Brady Bunch* or could have been *The Brady Bunch*. Our attraction to that is telling in that way, because, of course, none of us had that family. I watch them every day... in horror and in awe. [Laughs]

A disdain for money and a hatred of the rich come through over and over in your book. Specifically, I'm

thinking of "One Up," which was the one story in *Horse* I really didn't like because of the snide tone.

Do I hate the rich? Well, that would be totally wrong [for me] to say because my family is pretty rich, pretty well-off. What amazes me is a sense of privilege, a sense of entitlement, that excludes other people.

...It's not really about money; it's about class. That's more to the point. Because I feel very lucky to be not poverty-stricken and horrified of being poverty-stricken. I also know that that story was about perspective. How much someone's perspective can be completely one-sided or distorted when their world is so little. When they move in such a small world.

Do you see yourself as writing both for and to a certain group of people? Do you think of yourself as, not pushing an agenda, but writing with a social conscience to make a statement?

I believe so. It's changed. Some of the things in there [*Horse*] are fairly old. I used to be pretty narrowly focused on language, and now I feel more focused on storytelling. If you're a storyteller, you're telling it to someone, and yet I don't have any clear idea of who that reader is. Maybe because this is the first chance I've had to be read. So I'm just beginning to learn that now.

There are definitely political implications in my stories—but never divorced from the personal. My stories are very personal, not to say only emotional or whatever, but it's my personal journey that gets reflected much more than an ideological one. But those things get infused in there.

For example, I can write an article in the *Bay Times* about AIDS activism, but a way for me to transform my experience as someone who has AIDS is through fiction. Fiction gives you this chance to ask all these questions; whereas, in other expository kinds of writing, you make statements. I'm more about asking questions in fiction.

You're 30, and you have AIDS. What impact has it had on you, your writing?

...I want a chance to mature. Writers, artists, are constantly trying to understand life, and I don't have enough life to understand yet. I'm not a mature person; I'm not a serene person. I haven't gotten to that stage where I have perspective. All those things—craft, perspective and talent—can mingle together, but I fear that won't happen till I'm 50. So I want to make it to 50.

It certainly has changed my writing because all I can do is write about that fear. The novel that I just finished is about a writer. They say it's very awful to write about writers. But part of it is so that I can include that fear in there, and I can have a way to transform that and talk about basically what I just said—only put it in the mouth of a character and in his experiences.

AIDS, like anything else, is this interruption. My process would be to be a good writer and get better and better, and then turn out this wonderful, brave, great piece of work. That might get interrupted. So I'm angry about that and fearful about it. ▼

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Bawdy,

(Continued from page 34)

they belch and puke their way through the best cuisine. No wonder Wife Helen Mirren starts table-hopping, eye-wise, and ends up eating bookish loner Alan Howard instead of her coq au vin.

There's something of *Vertigo* and *Taxi zum Klo* when Mirren cruises Alan Howard and they finally make it in the suprawhite loos. Their greedy groping is humiliating, desperate, lusty and funny; but never sexy. Like my friend Jason, Greenaway has a consistent abhorrence of sex. Later scenes of the lovers are fleshy rather than flirty, and disgust with the body is carried to new screen extremes in the movie's final scene.

"I don't think he was ever very interested in sex," Mirren says wistfully, "At least, not with me, not with women."

She's talking of her husband, *The Thief*, but it sounds like the title for a pretty convincing postgrad paper on P.G.'s oeuvre. Mirren's line also cements one tummy-troubling implication of the movie: that *The Thief*'s sadistic behavior, anti-faggot jokes and band of male camp followers all point to his closet homosexuality.

Ripe Style

Clearly *The Thief* is a psychopath, and Greenaway is fairly demented too when it comes to visual rhymes, allusions and in-jokes. He's the Jonathan Demme of European art cinema: he loves anachronisms, and there's never a moment when things aren't happening in all corners of the screen.

Cry Baby

(Continued from page 34)

cheek sometimes seems to be the only way movies and TV can deal with life.

The problem is not that *Cry-Baby* lacks gutsy bad taste (you can get enough of that at Em-

It's a ripe style. Scenes are punctuated by the restaurant's changing menu cards, but the real backdrop to the film is an ongoing joke about the French Revolution.

Meanwhile, stagefront, Greenaway runs through scenes of forced feeding. When he finds out about his Wife's mid-supper snogging *The Thief* even threatens to eat Michael; worse things are swallowed by other characters. *Cook* is the first film since *Salò* to make eating shit really look like eating shit. This stuff is very yucky and may well be the moment to go out for popcorn.

For most of its long running time *Cook* is jaw-droppingly gorgeous and horribly evocative. It works in so many different ways, but anyone with any sense will find *The Wife* center of attention. You can identify with her, from the embarrassment of having to eat with an oaf, to the humiliation of recognizing that the same oaf is your husband. I kept waiting for Helen to face camera and start a Sondheim solo — "Every day a little death," say.

Conventional motivation and character psychology are not uppermost on Greenaway's shopping list. Why did *The Cook* let *The Thief* buy the restaurant? Why is *The Lover* attracted to *The Wife*? And, crucially, Why does Mirren stay married to a wifebeating sicko?

Cook is brilliant, bawdy and black — but is it gay? Toilet sex. S&M relationships. Overpriced restaurants. Gaultier drag. Cute waiters. Helen Mirren. Profiteroles. *Is it gay?* Is the food good at Zuni's? Is my friend Jason a fool?

porium's Home Furnishings), it's that Waters' pastiche is indistinguishable from the modern camp he and other gay artists made fashionable. Stay home, watch something sincere like *The Simpsons*.

Cry-Baby
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Helping Hands
Monday, 7 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6

Messiah Theatre Productions
Wednesday, 2:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25

Healing Ourselves
Wednesday, (2nd, 4th) 10 p.m., S.F. Viacom 25

Community Action Network News
Monday, 7:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 10 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)
Thursday, (1st, 3rd) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6

Outlook
Wednesday, (1st & 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, NE Bay)
Thursday, Weekly, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30; (4th) 6:30 p.m., S.F. Viacom 6
Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30

Electric City
Sunday, 10 p.m., S.F. Viacom 35
Tuesday, 10 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, 8 p.m., S.F. Viacom Cable 35
Friday, 7:30 p.m., KCAT South Bay Cable: The talents of Diviana, Tallulah Bankhead and the rest of E.C.'s cast; Psycho Session with Jerome & Dr. Maggi.

This Way Out
Wednesday, 3:30 p.m., KALW 91.7 FM

Rubyfruit Terrace/Hibernia Beach
Sunday, 7:30 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM: "Rubyfruit Terrace," hosted by Laurie McBride, alternates weekly with "Hibernia Beach," hosted by Ken McPherson.

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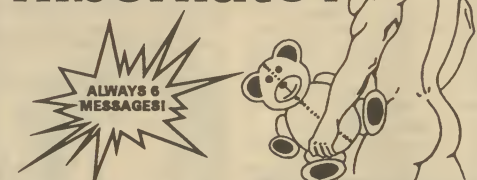
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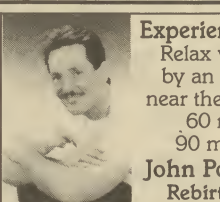
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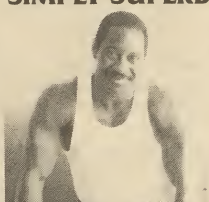
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These capable hands will revitalize you with an effective blend of Swedish, acupressure and Shiatsu. Feel yourself float away into ecstasy.

Sensual not sexual. Certified. Bob 861-0792 E14

CERTIFIED MASSEUR FITNESS TRAINER



JAY 647-2112
\$45/1 hour • \$55/90 min.

Glorious touch + hot videos
MASTER MASSEUR
Call Mark 24hrs, 648-6081 E18

Masterly Compleat Massage by versatile E. Bay CMT, both strong and sensual. \$35/75 min. Greg 547-1364 E17

South Lake Tahoe
— masseur —
Jim (702) 588-5559

Relaxing full body massage by well-trained CMT with strong hands and right touch. \$25-in. 821-9785 E14

GENTLEMAN'S GENTLEMAN

Superior massage by strong, extra handsome, intelligent 32 yr. old professional. Ultimate full-body relaxation in the privacy of your home or hotel provided by striking, 5'11", 170lb. clean-cut, blue-eyed, broad-shouldered man. S.F. only. \$60 out. 11 am-10 pm, call 567-2119 **PETER**

GLEN LANE, CMT

Swedish/Esalen Massage

- Alleviate Stress
- Enhance Circulation
- Renew Body Awareness
- Feel Great

Convenient Castro Location • Seven Days

By Appointment 255-9578

\$40/90 min.

100% PLEASURE

Mike; 32, 6', 190, blond, the man for men who look for the special experience. Complete nude massage. 931-0149. \$45/60, 24hrs. E14

24hr, FF Expert, 648-6081 E18

HOT, HUNG, HANDSOME
Scandinavian Bisexual Man looking for a few nice men to massage, naked, hung. Steve, \$40 in, 55 out. 441-4874 E14

SHIATSU Specialist

\$40/75 min.
Michael Quintal, CMT
821-9521



Wanna Melt?

certified 18th & Noe \$35
Jim 864-2430 E14

Bored call Tony 695-8710 E14

RELAX!

Sensual Swedish/Shiatsu Massage
You deserve a loving massage
Peter 864-5483

East Bay massage, Swdsh, full body, erotic by versatile hndsm masseur, \$35, 887-6290. E14

BUNS MASSAGE

and the rest of you, too.
Larry 621-8560, 24hrs in. E18

TOM

ADVENTURESOME

Built tight, muscular & hung.

Blond man, 32, 6', 190 lbs.

Very friendly guys over 30 preferred.

Sensual massage in the buff.

\$45 in/\$60 out 24 hrs.

567-4572

I'm a muscular, handsome bodyworker with the skills to satisfy your needs. David 552-0473 E14

★ ★ 861-9940 ★ ★

A deep, sensual full body massage, whenever you want it. David, 27 yrs, in/out E14

TAKE THE TIME TREAT YOURSELF
An hour and a half of quality bodywork. A professional and nurturing Swedish-Esalen Massage for men & women. A wonderful way to reduce stress, pain and fatigue. PWAs welcome. Certified — \$40 — Castro Area
Tom Lombardo 553-4073

WARNING
There is someone by the name of Vincent soliciting advertisers on these pages for ad work. He is NOT an employee of the Bay Area Reporter. If you have problems call Ann at 861-5019.

SHIATSU CERTIFIED
Good lkg, good body, great massage, 10 am-11 pm, \$35 out only. Rick 752-0467. E14

LOST FOR WORDS

Pretty man hung 9", 6', 195, B/Builder, blond, blue, nice big hands, hot lotion rub. GREAT FOR SHY TYPES
ADAM 474-8027
\$50in/\$65out

EXPERIENCE

for yourself an erotic full-body massage by a very handsome bodybuilder. Go ahead... indulge... \$40 in/\$50 out.
Daniel, 864-0788

626-5338

100% PLEASURE

Rugged Looks, 33, 6', 195, bl/bl bisexual look for the best in relaxation, complete, legit. nude massage \$45/\$65, 24hrs.
DAN 928-0302 E14

VITAL BALANCE BODYWORK

Barney
864-0166
certified



Spanking or dildo workout. Nick 885-1471, \$20. E15

East Bay massage, sensual, erotic, by defined dancer. \$35, call Alex, 782-7309 E14

Gay 90's Tarot. A Massage Experience. Peter 864-5483. E14

Superbly Sensual, Handsome Masseur. 24 hrs, in/out. Alex, 861-9940 E14

STRESS REVERSE
1000 hrs training. Soothing hands. Wholistic. Affordable - \$25 & up. Joe 863-0334 (Haight/Divis.) E14

Ecstasy Massage. Hot sensual oils, fully body w/shower & towel dry. Nurt. & invtg for the prof. man. PJ 563-4535. E14

Free Massage: You must be gd/kg, tall, trim, gym, 21-35, hung thick. Joe 771-5572 E14

Hot Oil Massage

Relaxing, sensuous, full-body. Athletic, handsome, trained bodyworker. Convenient downtown location. Mature men welcome. 24 hours
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Asian Fantasy
Handsome, Sexy Asian Masseur
\$50/65 pager 292-1170 E18

Complete Massage
In Relaxed Pacific Heights setting by handsome well built Italian man, \$45/hr. 921-3077, ask for Michael. E15

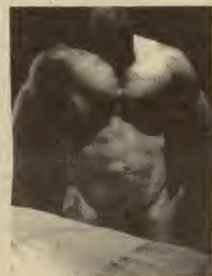
Full Body Nude Erotic

MARIN MASSAGE
Very Friendly & Discreet

Beeper 485-8376
after 3 beeps punch in your tele #

High-Strength sensitive touch
\$40 • Jim
864-2653

HOT PUERTO RICAN



MASSEUR 647-4423

MUSCLE MAGIC
Lay back and experience total muscle meltdown. The masterful, masculine hands of an extra warm and handsome muscular masseur give an extraordinary total-body massage. certified
Nick 255-6157 E15

Erotic nude handsome 291-9590 E14

All men 50+. Best \$25 massage. Great! Nick 552-5059. E17

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Acupressure

JAS./CMT
RELAXING/NURTURING
(Discount PWAs)
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\$40/90 minutes
2nd session 25% off

ROLL OVER LET DAD TAKE OVER

Erotic arousing cert. massage by dynamic dad. Handsome healthy muscular masculine 24 hours.
Andy 826-5452
Even Dads Need a Dad

Marin-SF, Hot BB Massage 10 am-10 pm \$50/70 Ken 459-4217 E25

Asian American Masseur
Certified, \$50/\$60. 285-9019 E29

SAN JOSE HUNK

6'1", 190, sexy, masc, gorgeous, hot bod. (408) 559-7524 E14

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Models & Escorts

\$50, extra long foreskin & fat on a Latin 731-0824. E14

Tall Hung Man needs atten. am/pm, 979-5790, for callback. E14

VERY HAIRY TOP!
Steve, 255-8539 E14

WANT IT?

No job too big or small. Young, hot and healthy, attractive stud for your animal pleasure. Blond, blue eyes, 160lbs, 28 yrs, Daddys welcome, \$60 out only, Matt 531-1165
Top/bottom, will travel. E14

Sensuous, extremely cute, 19 yo. Daddy's Boy, 956-5767
Jared \$100, anytime E14

Warm, friendly, safe fun 23 yo. 24 hrs, \$100 in, \$120 out 986-4659, Quality, Dane E14

HOT BLOND MAN
5'10", blue eyes, 32, 164 lbs., handsome, hung big, vers. fun and friendly, discreet. Special rates before noon. Erik 626-8449, let's talk. E14

HOT MASC. BOTTOM
29 yo. cowboy, spec. attention to select, hung tops out. All hotels, \$80, Mark 839-5978 E14

CHIPPENDALE STAR
MIKE STEFANO
567-9116 E14

I LIKE MEN OVER
45! Paul 621-1456 E14
Solid 210# stud has big thick 8 1/2". Need fr/attention. Andy 861-7931 E14

TALL BLACK STUD
Gdklkg, sexy, 6'4", 185 gym-toned pounds, well-hung thick uncut top, out only, Marshall 995-4789 E19

Hot yng swimmer, 24, 150lbs, br hair & eyes, Dave 563-5637 E18

FUN BOY
Very Slender, Smooth, 21 Dave 864-0670 E15

Want to please a 6'3" man w/a hairy chest & 9 hot inches?
JON 978-0163
satis. guar. call back req. E15

Model, 30, 6', 180#, 9", x-thick, watch vhs, j/o, fr. at your place, leave #, \$50, Jim 864-3053 E15

OVER WEIGHT?
Over 40? Appreciative 24 year old (6', 180lbs) would like to meet you, \$60 out. call 995-2798 E14

Hot young blond \$120-150 Erik Stevens 864-0670 E14

Gdklkg, masc., bld, German, bl, 36, "lets it all hang out" thick, pass. Hans 665-1966 E14

TOO BIG...

For most masculine top!! Rugged good look-sexy stud. washbrd abd—swimmer built. Craig 567-2949, \$85/\$90 E13

Voicemail rental 541-5001 E14

Rugged hndsm hunk 626-7392 E14

DADDY BEAR

37, 6'5", 250, beard, furry, needs your attention. Big balls, nice nips. Shy 1st timer OK! \$45, Ed 621-6860 E14

The butt & legs of life on this rugged, solid, tasty hunk. No B.S. 626-7392 E14

A butt you can fit in the palm of your hand on an extremely handsome tan gymnast with 1/2" nipples on massive pecs. 5'9", 155# 8" c, 24yrs, 864-0788, Steve \$80in/\$100out lv msg. E14

252-0775

MANMEAT

HUMPY BUTT AND TOOL E14

FF, TT, B/D, TOYS

Gloves, ex., kinky, Andy. Husky, 5'9", 185, blond, mus. 861-2668, \$70, sling, safe, exp. E14

Rock hard muscular blond, 5'8", 170#, solid muscle, 46" c, 28" w, 17" a. X-Marine, rugged, handsome, tattooed & really hung. \$80. Nick 861-7379 E14

8 1/2 x 6 1/2 inches of manmeat needs spitshine. Hank 861-7379, \$60 E14

HOT BLACK STUD

XXThick, XXHung, Sexy, Smooth, 26, clean-cut & versatile. Frank 541-5674, \$75 out. E14

Muscular Irish dude leans back for attn. thick, cut 8 1/2", 32, 5'10", 210# of man. Dan 861-7931 E14

Gentle Ben TLC or Grizzly Adams Rough. Hairy, Bearded, Beerbelly, 5'11", 230#, 995-4754. S.F.'S ONLY CALL BEAR! E14

ENJOYABLE B&D \$40

Zolt afternoons 771-8042 E16

Exotic Mulatto; Sexy; Hot-looking, Light-skinned. call 775-4771, 24 hours. E16

8 1/2 X-Thick Inches of Manhood needs spit-shine. \$60 Hank 861-7379 E14

Hot Hard Punk 995-4689 E14

Straight dude kicks back. Tough, muscular, 8 1/2 thick inches dig attention. real handsome, w/tattoos. Into men, women, cigars and video. Mike \$100 861-7379. E14

SMOOTH TANNED BLOND

Bodybldr, 26yrs, 5'9", 155#, 8" cut, a real hunk! Boyd 550-6833 E14

Handsome Masculinity on a Pleasant 28 yr old. 6'1", 160lbs, long bln hair & blue eyes 4 this sexpot. Relax & enjoy Ed by calling 775-2069, \$50. E14

DADDY'S SLING

Safe, exp., kinky, ff, b/d, tt, toys, gloves, husky, 5'9", 175, blond, must. Andy 861-2668. \$70, cleaning hose extra. E14

ALL-AMERICAN BOY

25 yo. swimmer lays back for WORSHIP. Handsome, clean-cut, wholesome. TREAT 775-3114 No B.S. E14

Sexy blond jock with washbrd abs & incredible pecs, 26yrs, 5'9" 155#, 8" c, tanned, masculine & very handsome, \$80in/\$100out Brandon 864-0788 E14

HUNG STUD

Thick and Big GUS (415) 469-7221 E14

BIGGER IS BEST



Competitive Titleholder B/B 26 yrs. old • 250 lbs. V-shape • X-hung • X-hndsmc Dirk 495-6345 or bpr. 764-9244 E14

Ray • 648-0902



Drop Dead Gorgeous 6'1", 24yo., blond/blue masculine, hot muscular legs and buns

MUSCLE HUNK

6ft, 29yr, 215#, strong guy want attn: 664-7156, 24hr. E14



KEN • 928-5826 • \$100

PLEASURE TORTURE

Even if you are a complete beginner I can teach you how to relax into new pleasures. No marks, no fluid exchange, no crude caricatures of power and masculinity, just slow, sensual, creative and safe pleasure-torture. If you've been curious about bondage and sensual S&M go ahead and "risk" a call to a great teacher. I'm short, built (5' 7", 160lbs, 29w, 42c, 16a) handsome, dominant, and experienced, but relaxed.

ROGER 864-5566

BIGGER IS BETTER

Sexy young stud, 26, loves to please • Big/Overweight Men • into all fantasies! Jim 441-3131 E14

Head—for the best! \$35 ask for B.J. 864-5483 E14

Grad Student starts vacation. Sat. avail. at your discretion. Bld, hairy, hung 8, 563-4019. E14

HERE'S THE BEEF

NO BULL. 12 PLUS FOR YOUR VIEWING & DINING PLEASURE. 6'2". 190. Hot, handsome, clean BLACK/CHEROKEE. \$100/Out J.J. 775-6544 E14

MODEL SEARCH

Do you think you have what it takes to be a male nude model? A MEN, MALE PICTORIAL is looking for men of any age (18-plus) or race. You must have at least 2 of the following features: looks, great body, or large endowment. We are also looking for photographers to shoot future sessions. We will be in San Francisco on Thursday, Friday and Saturday May 3rd, 4th and 5th. If you are interested please call Glen toll free at: 1-800-669-6565 for an appointment. E14

Lean lucky seven Derrick punk lollipop kid 995-4637 E14

HANDSOME MAN

Bn hr, blue eyes and eight inches, 5'10", 160lbs, \$80 in, \$90 out, bpr no. 292-8573 E14

Southern Comfort Blond, Young, Hung 9", 995-4607, Rusty. E14

PERFECTLY HUNG

Shows it, kicks back and ? Nick 252-0979, 24hrs, out E14

HOT MOUTH

Attractive light-skinned black boy likes to be dominated. Masculine • 25 yrs. • Hung afternoon & repeat discounts

JEFF 985-9132

TOTAL WORSHIP

Straight dude into videos and attentn. Big thick 8 1/2" plunger, hairy, muscular, hung and serious. Mitch \$60 864-0230 E14

FR/GR LESSONS

Mark's body language, 24 hrs. training & videos 648-6081 E15

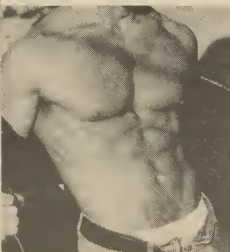
JOSHUA



Young, strong, smooth, handsome, athletic student, 24, 160#, discreet, fun, safe, will travel. \$100. E14

267-3082

VIDEO STAR BRAD PHILLIPS



Ready for Action, call me! Bpr.#739-2423 — Not an agency — E14

COMPETITION B.B.

5' 10", 225lbs., 52"ch., 31" w, 28" th., Hung Bigger, Harder • Vince \$100, In-Out 495-6345 E14



Very Fine Culture Massage • model • escort Sergio 415-646-1919 E14

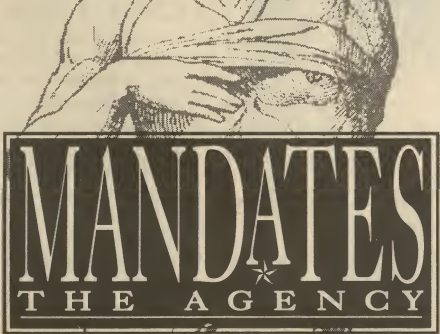
INCREDIBLY HANDSOME TOP

SIX FT EIGHT
32, 220#, 8 thick inches versatile, playful, raunchy please no phone JO, \$100 863-3823 BRENT! E14

Cute, Young & Hung Top, Kurt **9"STUDMUFFIN** yummy & filling 541-5616 E14

HUNG LIKE A HORSE
Ital. stallion, br/br, 5'8", fat tool, stud looks, built. Jonny \$75 864-6436 E14

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B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Models & Escorts

PHOTO BY RAM 553-8172



HOT BLOODED ITALIAN
252-0775
(HIGH REPEAT)

GWM 6'1" gym bod 826-4495 E14

VIDEO STAR
BILL MARLOWE
567-9116 E14

HOT ITALIAN
Handsome, br, br, nice body, treat yourself. J.C. 285-1469. E14

BOYS
2 handsome studs
know what you need.
1 top • 1 versatile
You can't beat this team!
Jack & Brad
621-0954

Dad w/belt & nasty 8" 863-6536 E14

"A Condom or a Casket!" E14

STUDFINDERS
Buffed, strong, hairy, long, punk,
prep. Men you want 541-5000 E14

SWIMMER



SCOTT • \$100
(415) 825-2433

BONDAGE & DISCIPLINE
S/M Domination Etc.
YOUNG SMOOTH TOP
23-yr-old, 6ft, 170lb, well-built,
masculine master will train.
648-7260, KEN

Fist on good man 928-7572 E18

HUNKY SWED
Handsome, Hung, Tall, Big Balls,
24hrs, Axel 863-0252 E14

RAM PHOTO 553-8172



KURT • 255-4601

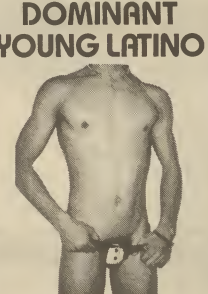
Hndsm, 6', 165# Man with a
BEER-CAN-SIZED
tool! Jeff 621-5635 E14

BLOND BOMB
Handsome Preppy Student
Ready for Versatile Play
6'1", 160lbs, 25yrs, will travel,
top/bottom, older men welcome.
Justin 482-0504, \$60 out only. E14

Isn't it Romantic?
Handsome, 27 yrs, 24 hrs.
Chris, 861-9940, in/out E14

SEXY YOUNG
► **STUD** ◀
24, 5'9", 150lbs.
smooth, defined upper
body, solid muscular legs,
clean-cut boyish good
looks. HUNG 9½"
► **SCOTT** ◀
863-4587

DOMINANT
YOUNG LATINO



Fulfill your Pleasure
with this Schoolboy Stud
Rick 921-RICK

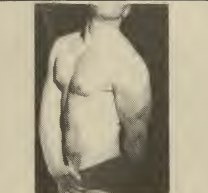
FEELING TWISTED?
Unwind & heat up with a tan
skinned, truly hot hunk of lust &
thrust. Dino 921-7874. E14

HOT & YOUNG
21 well hung thick
CALL DIRK 864-1658 E14

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The Bigger the Better • Giants
On Top • King Size, etc. etc.
TOP • SAFE • In/Out
26yrs, 5'11", 172lbs, 10½"
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Private Party, Not an Agency

Big Butt Tall Hairy Blue-Eyed
Daddy. Chad 861-7014 E14

Man with a belt 928-7572 E18



23, 5'10", 160 lbs, blond hair,
blue eyes, cleancut student,
smooth, muscular, swimmer,
fun, safe, discreet. \$100. In/Out,
will travel. **Mike 267-3032.**

A MAN'S MAN
Beard • Built
Tattoos • Hung
Verbal • Dominant
and a helluva nice guy
CORY 928-7572

SWIMMER JOCK



XXHUNG • BUTCH • BLOND
WOLF • 753-6539

EXPENSIVE
AND WORTH IT
6' 175# Brn/Blu
Sexy V-Shaped Torso
Washboard / True 9x6
All on a Hot 'n Handsome
Man who's also Nice
MASSAGE INCLUDED
\$100 • **863-7399**

MUSCLE
★ **MASTER** ★
6', 260lbs, 21"a, 56"ch
JOHN 563-5176

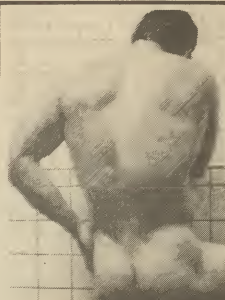
Footslave search 863-6536, 24hrs E14

VIDEO SUPERSTAR
JOEY STEFANO
567-9116 E14

COLT
GROOMING
626-5338

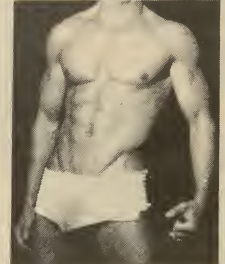
6'4", 195#, hairy, ex-Army Sgt.
Chuck 431-1579 E16

★ \$30-Hot athlete. Hung nice. ★
★ Bill 441-1054 Massage, etc. ★ E15



JASON
175 lbs., 5'8½", 46"C, 29"W
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Masculine • Handsome • Friendly



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Hot-Blooded Buddy
Hot young stud. Super Endowed.
Thick power tool.
Rock-hard body. Low hangers.
Vincent \$75 #415-MAN-8535

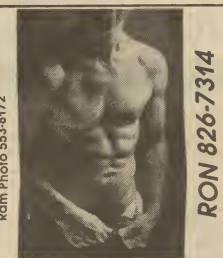
COLT MODEL
TEDDY CARR
567-9116 E14

8" showoff likes J/O with tit
work, porn, Fr. Jay, 928-5826,
Callback. E19

Hot Puerto Rican Bottom call
255-8782, safe, 24 hrs. E16



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Ram Photo 553-8172

RON 826-7314

CHECK ME OUT

See to believe. 27 y/o
rugged XXX-Handsome,
XXX-Hung, XXX-ripped,
lean, hard muscular
god-body, tattoos.
No BS. Serious stud
pleasure seeker.
I really dig attention.
\$150
RICK, 626-6839

Guerneville Bottom avail. for
Hot Tops! (707) 869-9461 E15

Hairy bearded well hung man for
hire Steven—38, 6'2", 180,
431-5974 day best. E15

ITALIAN DADDY
Hung and Hairy
239-8419

Bike messenger delivers. Big
parcel, shaved head, blk hightops
Vic 621-1553 E15

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MARIO GRAZZO
567-9116 E14

VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN
Hot, gdlkg, rockhard muscles
& athl legs. Vers, healthy,
yng, hung, tall Marine type.
Anytime. No BS.
Dan 753-8604

VERY DARK
VERY MUSCULAR
VERY TOP
Black Man offers fun and
games to interested bottoms.
James \$100
534-0982

TOP FUN
Good looking, friendly stud
Extra thick—Extra hung!!!
Anthony \$80.
864-6436

THE STALLION
Bpr # 337-3985

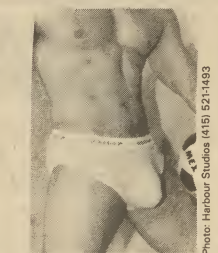


JUICE EXTRACTOR
For Home, Office, Hotel
Out, Mark 839-5978, \$40
X-Hung Only E14

"Big Dick of Life" 864-0538 E14

Let's Play
CUTE-YOUNG-THIN
Boy needs attention
Bobbie 243-0792 out/\$100 E14

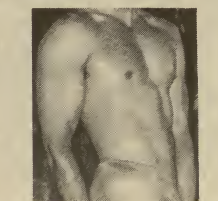
SOCCER STUD



Very Muscular
Incredible Legs
Genuinely Handsome
(415) 431-STUD in/out

Roger of SF
A short, solidly-built, clean-cut &
handsome toptan into gradual
physical S&M, bondage and sensual,
creative stimulation. Do not
confuse with brutality—not into
marks, fluid exchange, or crude
caricatures of masculinity. Most
people look for pleasure in the
same old places... If you're looking
for a dominant, level-headed
and experienced top to guide you
into new sensual territory,
call an expert.
Roger 864-5566
I take my time.

HUNG BODYBUILDER



38, 5'10", 180, br/bl, 9" cut.
Hot, discreet, sensual, vers.
E. Bay/SF \$100ln/120out
Mark 451-6367 days/evenings

B.A.R. BAZAAR

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A MAN'S PRIVATE J/O ARENA

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Schedule
of
Hours**



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A MAN'S BEST CHOICE — **DON'T COME LATE**

We have carefully developed the early bird crowd. Doors open at 8:00 p.m. daily. Please have your card and cash ready.

**Be part of the all new Club 1808,
where the patrons are the best show in town.**

Reward yourself. Watch Exhibitionists play.

HOURS: Noon-3 PM MON-FRI

EVENINGS: 8 PM-1 AM

8 PM-3 AM FRI & SAT



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GOING STRONG**

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10:00 AM - 3 AM**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
24 HRS**

MR. MARCUS



Left to right, David Carranza, first runner-up, Steve Lesh, Mr. South Bay Drummer, and Mark Bonine, the second runner-up, last Saturday at the Heat in San Jose. (Photo: Marcus)

The Winners: Hollinger, Lesh, Lewis and Mueller

You'd have thought it was a leather title giveaway last week if you didn't know better, but of course you all know better don't you? There were four titles up for grabs last week and sixteen leather men vying for them. There were leather celebs floating all over the place from San Francisco to Sacramento to San Jose with judges, MCs, male and female title holders, representatives of charities, show biz entertainers and countless volunteers. Leathermen and women flew in from Las Vegas, Seattle, New Orleans, Los Angeles, New York, Phoenix and even a dude from Berlin. At each event (there were four in all) the contestants played to the judges as well as packed houses. And best of all, literally thousands of dollars were raised for various charities. The Mr. South of Market contest alone on Sunday raised slightly over \$5,000!

Putting it in sequence, the action started at the Eagle last Wednesday night when six semi-finalists vied for the Mr. SF-Eagle Leather title. The winner of the first heat way back on March 7, Joe Hollinger, scored high with judges Peter Austin, Chuck Slayton, Nick Veratakis, Patrick Batt and Steve Patten. The runner-up was that little South African dynamo, Grant Dupont who won the second heat on March 14. Joe will represent the Eagle at the Mr. Leather of SF contest on Saturday, May 12. Have you got your ticket yet?

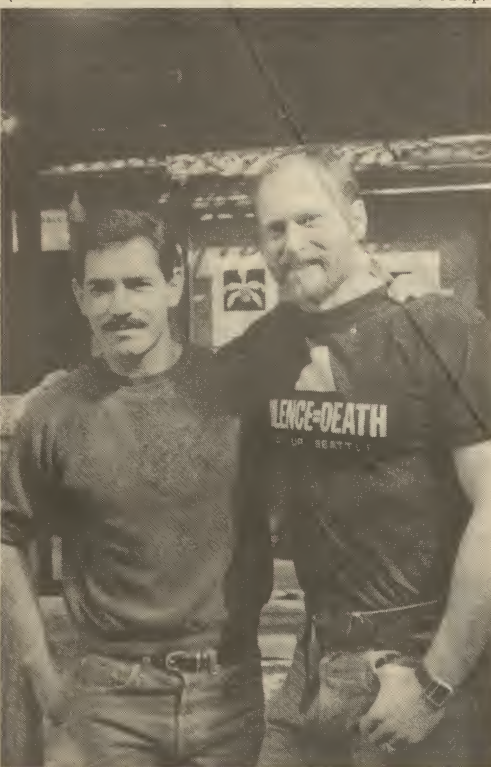
Saturday night, March 31, there were two contestants in Sacramento for the Central Valley Mr. Drummer title and at the same time, there were four leather dudes vying for the Mr. South Bay Drummer title at the Heat in San Jose (a great bar!). Now try as hard as I might, I just cannot be in two places at once, so having been asked to be a judge in San Jose,

I had to forego the contest in Sacramento at Joseph's Town & Country. So the cheering was ricocheting back and forth from the Central Valley to the South Bay with leather dudes and dudettes. For the second time in a row I am still unable to get photos of the Drummer contest and leather daddy and daddy's boy from Sacramento. I guess the responsible person(s) in Sacramento don't care if they get any of their icons in print.

In Sacramento, Ric Lewis (who is also Mr. Leather

Fresno) won the title with Mike Deeley taking the runner-up spot. Both will compete for Mr. Northern California Drummer here on April 28.

They had lots of entertainment in Sacramento, including what was described to me as a very, very hot country/western group by the name of Open Road. Jolanne Tierney also got everybody's body quivering with her renditions and someone named Helen Holliday also drag-entertained. One disappointment: the contestant from Reno never showed up!



Left to right: Mr. Drummer '81 Ray Perea with Mr. Drummer '85 Steve Reiswig at the Mr. South of Market contest last Sunday. (Photo: Marcus)



Outgoing Mr. San Jose Drummer Mike Kessinger gave his fans a parting shot at the Mr. South Bay Drummer contest in San Jose last Saturday night.

(Photo: Marcus)



South Bay Drummer contestant Mark Bonine put his "subject" through the paces at the contest in San Jose last Saturday night.

(Photo: Marcus)

Our leather daddy's boy, David Thompson, sang his little heart out at the contest and got high praise for his efforts.

★ ★ ★

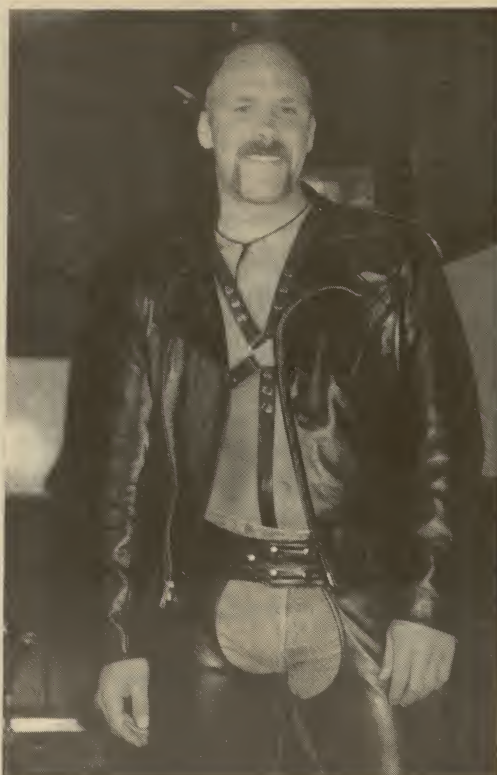
In San Jose, Jason Ladd MC'd the contest before a huge and enthusiastic crowd. Former Intl. Ms. Leather Shan Carr had them in stitches and I did notice some very, very attractive leather women drooling over Ms. SF Leather Corky D. All but one of the contestants is a member of S.L.U.G. (South Bay Leather/Uniform Group) and believe me, their members really got behind the contestants with enthusiastic cheering and pride.

They had a 50/50 raffle (\$208) and lots of beer. The contestants were all well-versed in the leather lifestyle and virtually all of them have been involved in community efforts in fundraising and consciousness raising. Michael Kessinger, the outgoing Mr. San Jose Drummer (a title laid to rest) did a good job and didn't seem too broken up about handing over the title to his successor—(blaring of 76 trumpets!) who turned out to be the very visible and very leathery Steve Lesh. Not just two weeks ago, Steve won the South Bay Leather Daddy title where last year he was the first runner-up. And a year ago to the day, he was a runner-up in the Mr. South of Market contest—but a runner-up no more! The first runner-up in San Jose was David Caranza who is involved in fund raising for the Billy De Frank Center. Both Steve and David

will participate in the Mr. Northern California Drummer competition.

The second runner up was Mark Bonine who did a very spirited fantasy with handcuffs

and lots of push-ups. They loved it! I had fun with my co-judges former Ms. Leather-SF Shadow Morton and Todd Cowan, co-owner of the Heat and a founding member of



Joe Hollinger, Mr. SF Eagle, and Mr. SF Drummer at the Mr. SF Eagle contest.

(Photo: Marcus)

S.L.U.G. Hey, they give good Drummer in San Jose. Next time you're there, check out the Heat. You'll see some very nice art work by Tom Hernandez on the walls. The bartenders are very friendly and when their expansion plans are completed, I daresay

you'll want to visit the place frequently.

★ ★ ★

In a place like the San Francisco Bay Area, where you can wear leather year-round, you'd think all the hot leathermen on

(Continued on next page)



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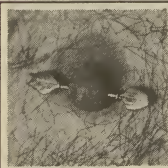
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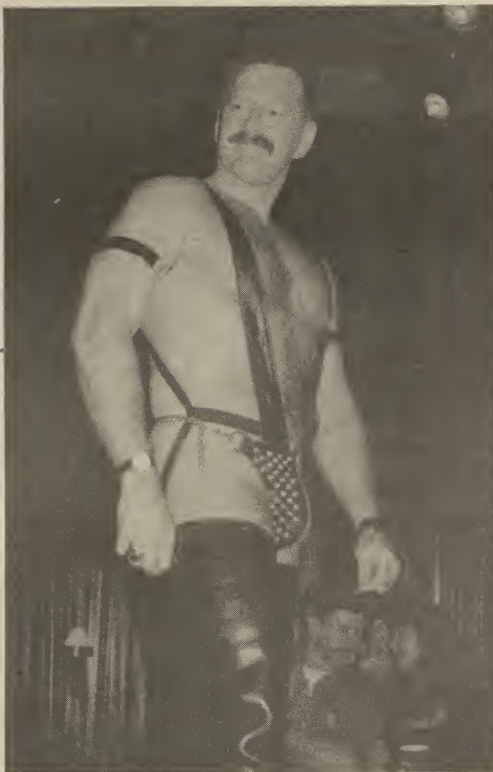
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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

our turf would get more involved, wouldn't you? As it turns out, we're inundated with what has been described as "watch queens." The perception that "you don't want to get involved," or "it's too political," etc., ad nauseum, is a pathetic one. Everybody in the known gay world knows that San Francisco has the hottest men, the hottest leather community and the most dedicated volunteers who more often than not have a leather history. Lest I begin to pontificate at length, suffice it to say that a lot of people are disappointed that there were only four contestants for the Mr. South of Market contest at the Eagle on Sunday. Perhaps the previous winners have not been visible, nor have they made any major efforts to be involved. While there are no rigid guidelines saying that they *must* contribute to the community that raised them to prominence, I think I would be somewhat ashamed of myself if I had a title and didn't do anything for the community with it. I'll give it a rest because I firmly believe that after this past Sunday's contest, the winner will prove me wrong, that he deserved the title and will do something with it.

Besides the obvious display of hunkiness in the contest, the biggest ovations that afternoon were for Jolene, Albolene and Porcelana—better known as the Cream Sisters. As I gazed out at the huge crowd during their two sets, every face was pure delight with the trio that are *always* show stoppers. The Cream Sisters have elevated lip-synch to a fine art because not only do they have the words down pat, they tap dance and have every gesture down to perfection. Hardened, die-hard leather hunks who wouldn't be caught dead at *anything* with drag, were stomping, throwing money and genuinely amazed at what one dude chomping a big cigar described as "absolutely top notch." I mean they were throwing \$5 bills!!



Mr. South Bay Drummer Steve Lesh last Saturday at the Heat in San Jose. (Photo: Marcus)

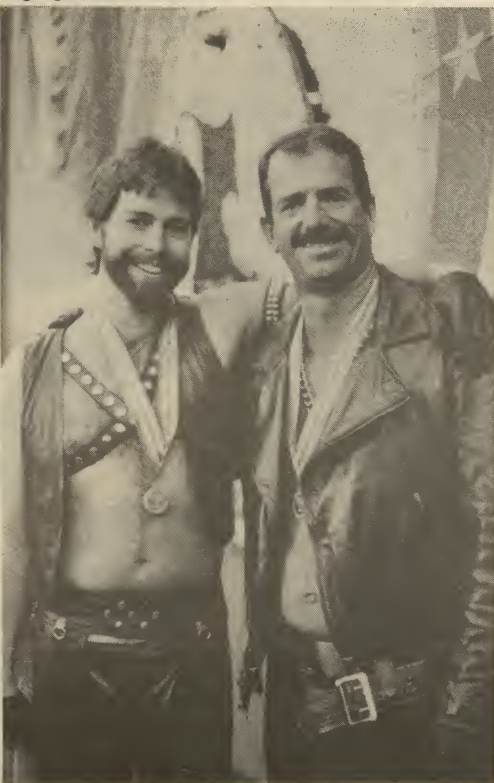
With Bob Dern, Dick Manning and Darrell Joyce counting the judges' scores and the audience's votes; with Tom Rodgers auctioning off beautiful art works from Kirby, Jim Leff and Robert Uyvari (you did great as Vanna White, Alan Selby!) and Mr. SF Leather/Mr. SF Drummer Joe Hollinger selling raffle tickets and Mr. Drummer '85 Steve Reisswig MCing, it was wall to wall bodies. Joe quit selling raffle tickets at about 1700 hours because an errant person burned his shaved head with a cigarette!

The enthusiasm was so great, two spontaneous cheering groups formed on either side of the Eagle patio to see who could cheer the loudest for the contestants. Consequently, the contestants were at ease; they were cogent and they glided throughout their three appearances as though they'd been doing it for years. And the judges! Leather Daddy Jay Smith, Mr. Drummer '81 Ray Perea (still as hunky as ever!), David Lindsey of West Graphics, Chuck Slayton (former owner of Chaps Bar), Officer Ron Morrison and Mr. Northwest Drummer '85 Ray Woods—well, they had their work cut out for them.

It was heartening to see youth and maturity on the stage. The contestants knew just what the audience wanted and they gave it their "all." Hey, there was leather pride all over the place.

When all the cheering was done, the beer slurped up, the barbecued chicken devoured (from the ovens of the Cal Eagles MC), and the votes were counted, the fourth Mr. South of Market was named: Ken Mueller, who is not only into leather, uniforms and community spirit, he doesn't look at all like he's 42 years old. Ken won the most points from the audience and the judges. He was immediately besieged for autographs on the stunning poster designed by Johnny Marchant. The Mr. South of Market t-shirts (by David Cockman of Angles, of course!) were even being signed, and are still available at Mister S.

The runner-up was St. Clair Adams, certainly a leatherman about town. He has an uncanny and innate sense of saying just enough, showing just enough and tantalizing the audience just enough. Being involved with a myriad of projects around this community, St. Clair is and has always been a successful and down-to-earth guy with lots and lots of admirers. John Caldera and a fellow named Robert rounded out the contestant list. They were all crowd pleasers.



Left to right: St. Clair Adams, the first runner up with Ken Mueller, Mr. South of Market IV, last Sunday at the SF Eagle. (Photo: Marcus)

Lots of thanks to innumerable people who helped this benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund and special thanks to Dick Glover for all the leather gear and the great art work and paintings. Also many thanks to Off The Wall framing on Haight St. for framing the art. And especially thanks to Zach Long—it isn't easy getting a project off the ground like the Mr. South of Market contest. And thanks to all of you—you great men and women for coming out in full force and believing in all the good things that the AIDS Emergency Fund does for our brothers and sisters.

Preview of Coming Attractions

Thursday, April 5:

The bare chest contests resume at the SF-Eagle tonight and they'll be looking for Mr. June 1991 when the gong strikes 2200 hours. Mr. June 1990 John Dopp and his calendar salesman friend Jerry Roberts will help with the judging. All you gym dudes—I'm sure you could use the \$100 cash prize couldn't you?

This is also Intl. Ms. Leather weekend. Another horde of celebrities are enroute or here already and I understand there are almost a dozen contestants. Tonight is the press party for all involved, followed by Alan Selby's Fetish & Fantasy Masked Ball at Dreamland. Your favorite DJ Joshua Persky will spin the music in between entertainment by Triad, bondage demonstrations by experts, prizes for best costumes, best mask and much more! Doors open at 1930 hours and all the IMsL contestants will make their first SF appearance. It's all for the AIDS Emergency Fund and only \$10.

Saturday, April 7:

In the deep South (try Memphis, Tenn.), another historical event takes place tonight. For the first time, a Mr. Leather of Tennessee will be selected. I'll be MC'ing with my goombah, IML '88 Mike Pereyra (also known as the Ambassador of Leather). Mr. Drummer Brian Dawson, IML/NLA Guy Baldwin and a lot of other luminaries will be in attendance at Les Robinson's newest entrepreneurial effort. *Leather Journal* publisher Dave Rhodes and Mr. Leather Journal/Mr. Great Plains Drummer/Mr. Gay Nebraska Dustin Logan will also be among the judges. I accepted this gig last October when the IMsL contest was slated for a different date. When IMsL changed their date, I couldn't get out of the Tennessee commitment. If you happen to find yourself in Memphis, drop in to the Pipeline Bar for the leather action. The contest tonight will be at The Studio (\$15 at the door). Last year Omaha and Little Rock entered the leather competition venues. This year, it's Oklahoma and Tennessee.

Tonight, the fourth Intl. Ms. Leather will be chosen at the California Club. They'll begin the competition at 2000. Tickets are \$20. Host hotel is Civic Center Holiday Inn. Friday night, April 6 is the Black Elegance Ball (\$5) at the same hotel.

Susie Shepherd will hand

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Bay Area Reporter.**



Former Leather Daddy Jason Ladd emceed the South Bay Drummer Contest last Saturday in San Jose.

(Photo: Marcus)

over her title to another deserving woman. Susie has been very visible during her year. She has travelled near and far; she has commanded respect by the male and female leather communities wherever she visits. She has raised money and consciousness. She has been one person who can wear

the Leather Pride pin and actually know what it stands for and her actions have proven that she was the right choice after all. Sorry to miss your stepping aside Susie, but I'll see you on May 12 when you come down for our Mr. Leather of SF contest. Good luck to all the contestants!

Tonight also, the SF Gay Men's Chorus will perform at 1st Congregational Church with the San Diego Gay Men's Chorus at 2000. Tickets in advance are \$10 and \$15 at the door. The show is a nautical theme: Ports O'Call but I don't expect they'll be singing Drop the Soap! There are just some demands Gary Garrison makes that the rest of the Chorus will not condone!

If you get up early enough today, you can join the Constantines MC for a one-day-run (ride) on your motorcycle to the San Mateo hills. Check in at the Watering Hole at 0900. Oh yes, cars are welcome. The flyer didn't mention any fee, but I'm sure it will be affordable.

Sunday, April 8:

The GDIs are having their annual Bag Lunch Social at a north of Market bar—the Transfer—with prizes for the best bag lunch; also picking Miss Bag (another lovely!) I hope Stephanie isn't MC'ing this one. You know how she gets!

The Barbary Coast Cloggers are supposed to be having the beer bust at the Eagle, but they hadn't confirmed at my deadline. If not, the Eaglettes will put on the feed bag, hustle the

beer and have a ball dishing each other. Empress I Jose will perform at Charpe's Grill at 1500—I thought they were doing those camp operas—but I'd pay \$10 to see Jose perform at a dog fight, so check it out.

★ ★ ★

As for the rest of the month: April 16, 17, 18 is the Eagle's 9th Anniversary with pin night, t-shirt night and buffet night in that order (with City Swing and Gail Wilson!). April 21 is the Mr. Long Beach Leather contest at Mike's Corral in North Long Beach. April 22 is the Phoenix Uniform Club Uniform Contest at the Eagle; April 28 is Mr. Northern CA Drummer finals; May 11, Tom Rodgers' massacre, ooops, I mean "roasting"; May 12 is Mr. SF Leather Contest; May 25-28 Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago.

And yes for a change the rumor is true: There will be NO Lily Street Fair this year—all the queens moved out of the neighborhood except for a few and they say they can't do it all!

Hey, my plane is leaving for Memphis, so gotta go! Have fun this weekend—with all the leather roaming around town, shame on you if you don't! ▼

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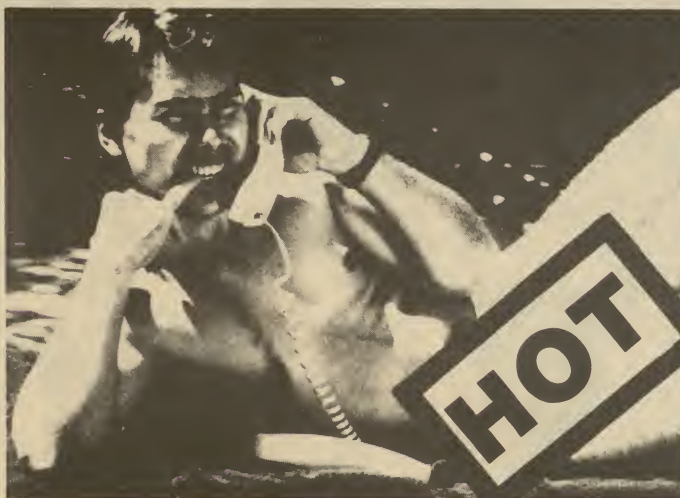


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Ma Rose

(Continued from page 36)

divide up Ma Rose's possessions while she remains hospitalized highlights this brilliantly, and even the seemingly minor things that reveal the possessiveness of the parent who stills controls the life of the child in so many ways.

What I found fascinating was the effect that the performance had upon people, when I listened and participated in conversations afterward. They were virtually all to do with how much the moments in the play resembled our own relationships with our families. That, in itself, was a sure sign of the pervasive impact of this play, and this production of it.

Suzanne Bennett, artistic director of the Eureka Theatre, is making her local direc-

ting debut with *Ma Rose*. She has woven a rich and powerful fabric of details, memories and moments. Underlying a soulful gospel song is discord at the heart of the family, hurt that is revealed beneath the harmony.

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Gay Men's Domestic Violence Counselor 40% time. Provides individual and group counseling to gay male domestic violence victims. Must have MSW, MFCC, or PhD, as well as a Cal. license. Resume and letter to CUAV, 514 Castro St., SF 94114. eoe. Persons of color are encouraged to apply. ^{E14}

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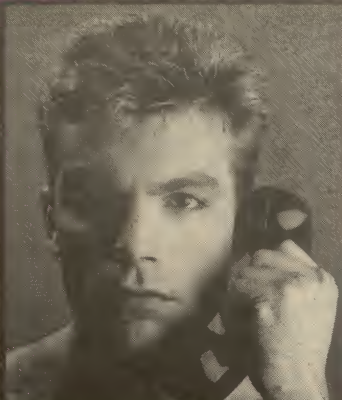
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